

FAIRY TAIL

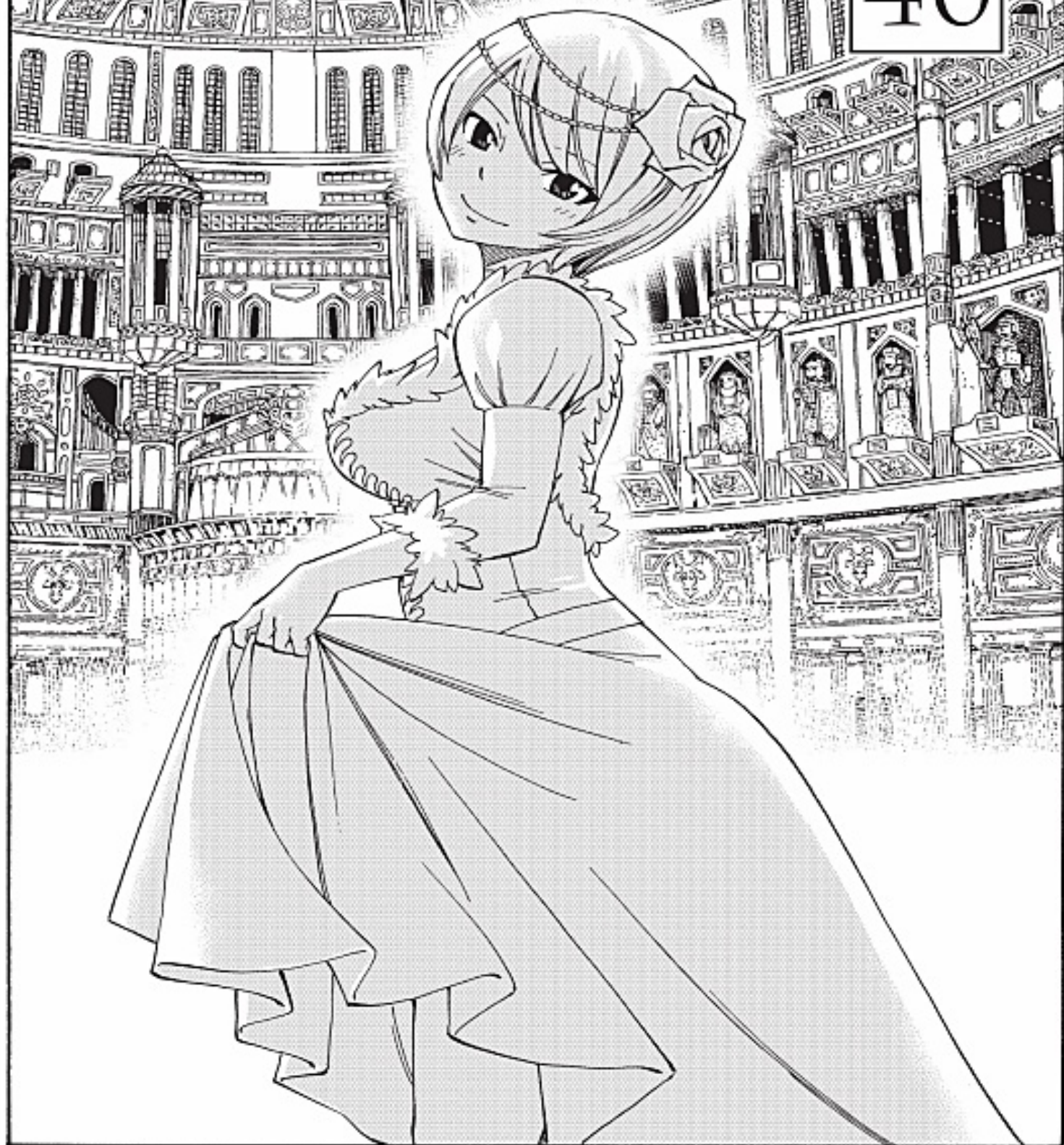
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Hiro Mashima

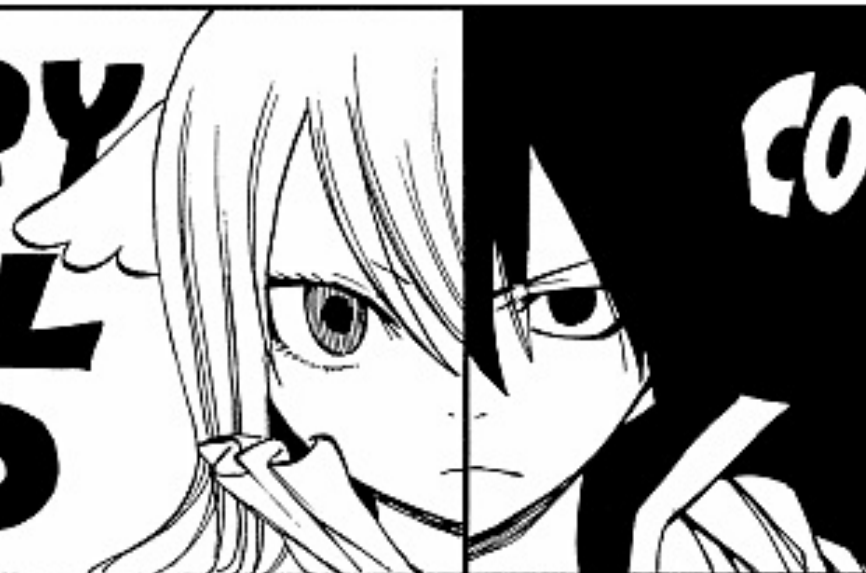
Fairy Tail

40



HIRO MASHIMA

FAIRY TAIL 40



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FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 336: I'll Give Today All I've Got





I have a duty
to watch over
these people.

No... Please
allow me to
stay here...

Look at
this!!!



DMP
FA
DMP II
FA
DMP
FA

Lucy-
sama!!

Everybody
!!!!

The future
Lucy?

Look
here!

A notebook
from the
future me.

What is
this...?

What does that mean?

"...the door in my future timeline would cease to exist, and therefore, so would I. I'd vanish."

"If, for any reason, the Eclipse door were destroyed in this timeline ..."

And if there's no door in the future, Rogue won't have any way to come *back* from the future!

In other words, suppose that we destroyed the door in the present, right?

Then all the futures would be rewritten with one in which the door is destroyed.

But...will it undo the things that have already happened?

That means the world should return to the path it used to be on...

I see... If Rogue can't come from the future...



How-
ever, there
remains one
very large
problem.



It's
certainly
worth
trying!



If all goes well,
the dragons and
Rogue will all
disappear from
this time!!

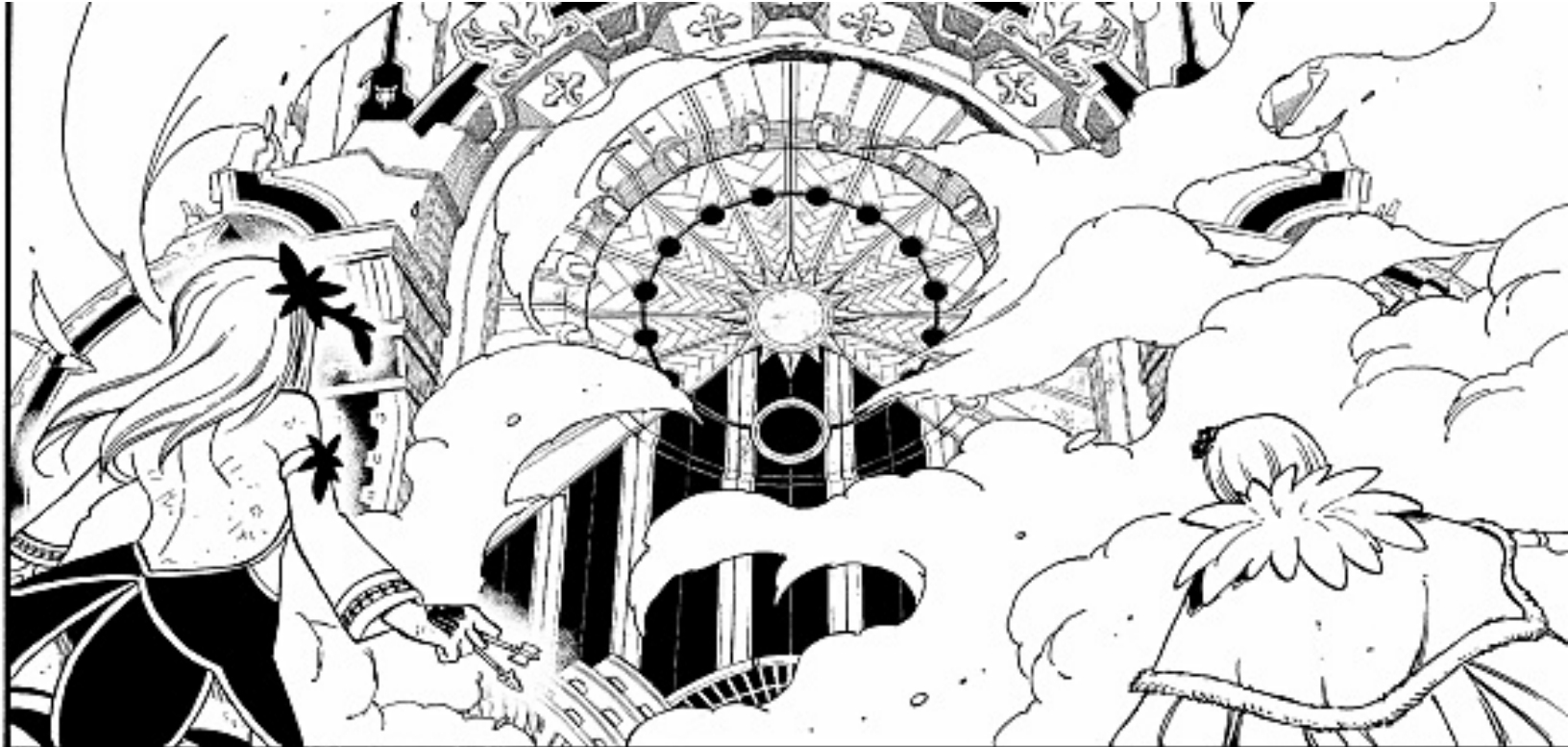


How do we
destroy such
a massive
structure?



Yes
!!!!

We just have
to hit it with all
the magic we've
got!!!!



We still have to try!



It won't be easy to destroy.

It's built of a metal extremely resistant to magic, Maginanium.



You're kidding...

Not even a scratch...

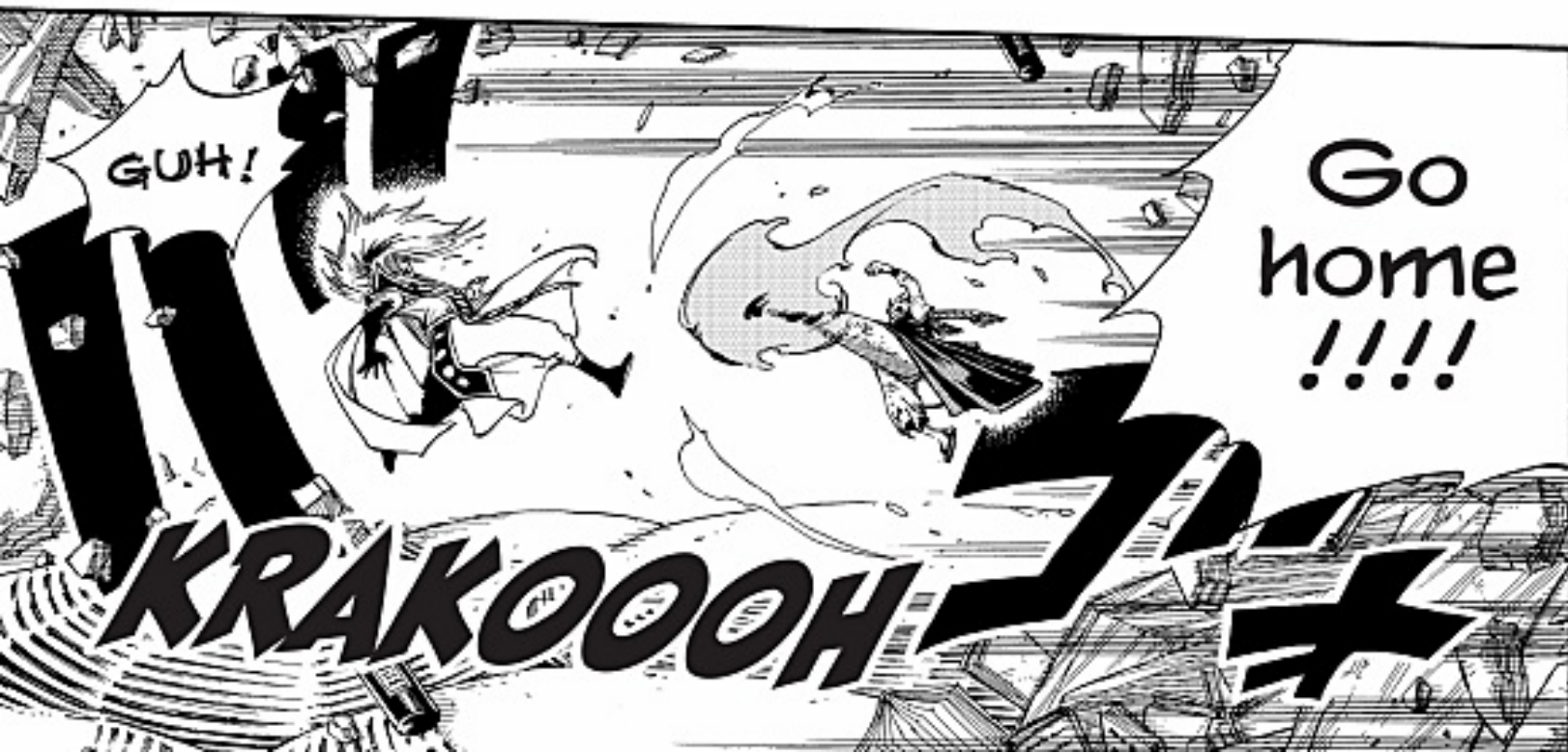


Whoa!

KH!



WHAKOOOOM!





He and I
will eventually
become one, like
two shadows
merging.

Then
what's
the other
Rogue
supposed to
do?!



I have
no intention
of going
back!



You want
to steal
Rogue's
future?!!!

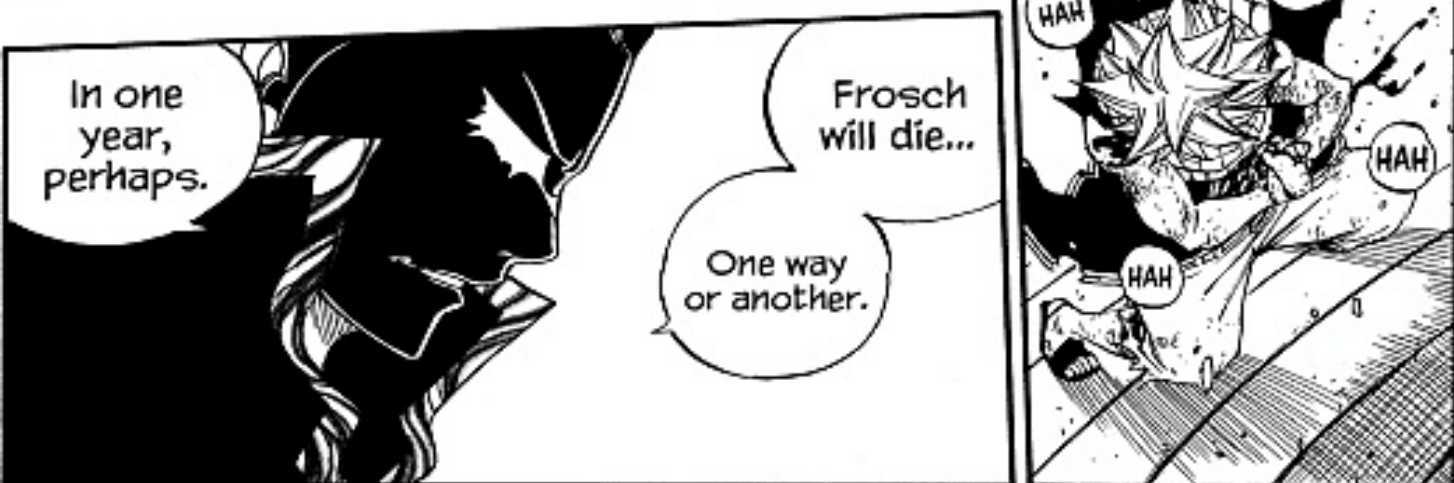
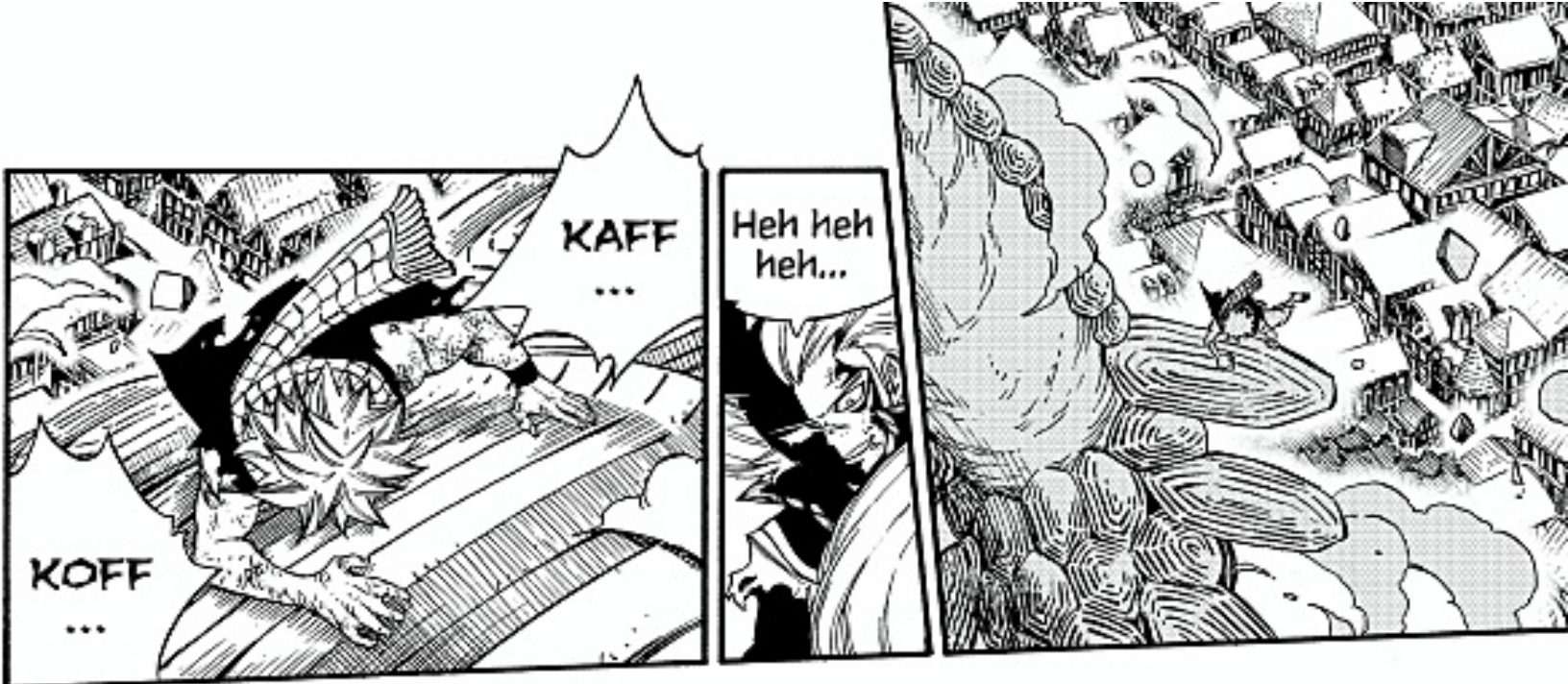
SHAAASH



That's why
I'm making
a new one!!!!

There *is* no
future as long
as Achnologia
exists!!!







**But
Frosch is
alive...
right
now!!!!**



I wasn't
able to.

Can't
you stop
it...?



You
have never
known true
despair...



Listen,
you...



I am no longer
amused
playing with
one insignificant
cat!

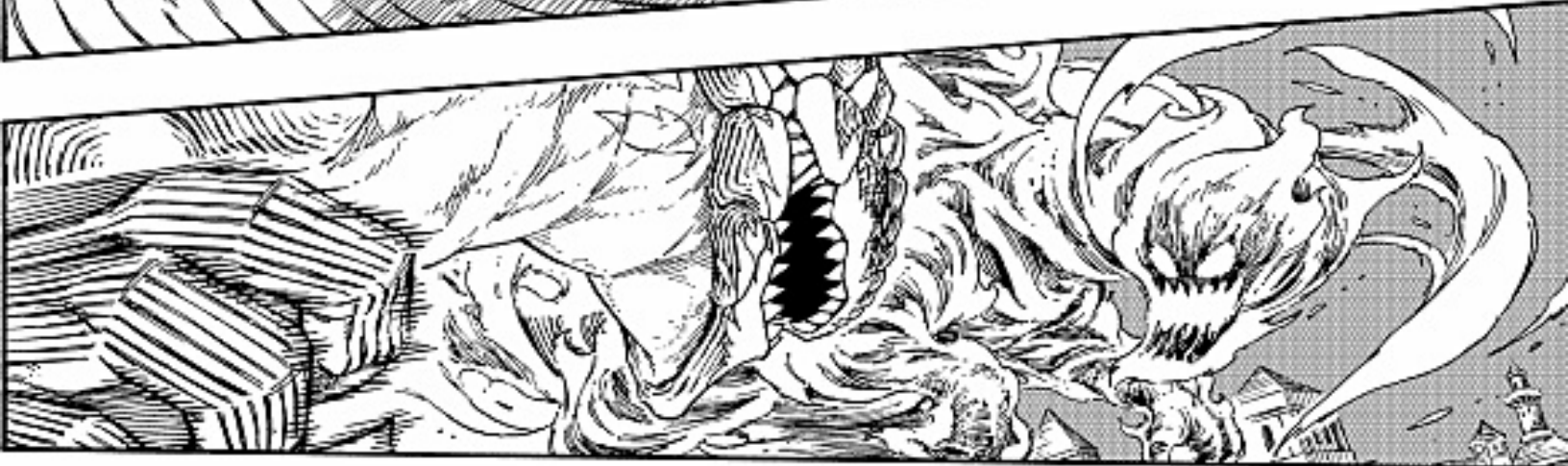
What
does it
matter?



**You cannot
understand
the desperate
feeling of
clinging onto
your last
hope!!!!**



**So for your one
hope, you're
going to bring
despair into the
past?!!!**



**When are
you going
to grow
up, Natsu
Dragneel
?!!!**



**It's not
possible
to make
everyone
happy!!!**



And it sure
as heck
ain't the
future that
you're
choosing
for us!!!!

SLISS

We're
going
to keep
heading for
the future
we choose
!!!



Everybody
has a right
to choose
their own
future!!!

Even
if all
that's
true...



GWOOGH



Natsu!!!



I don't need
to know the
future!!!

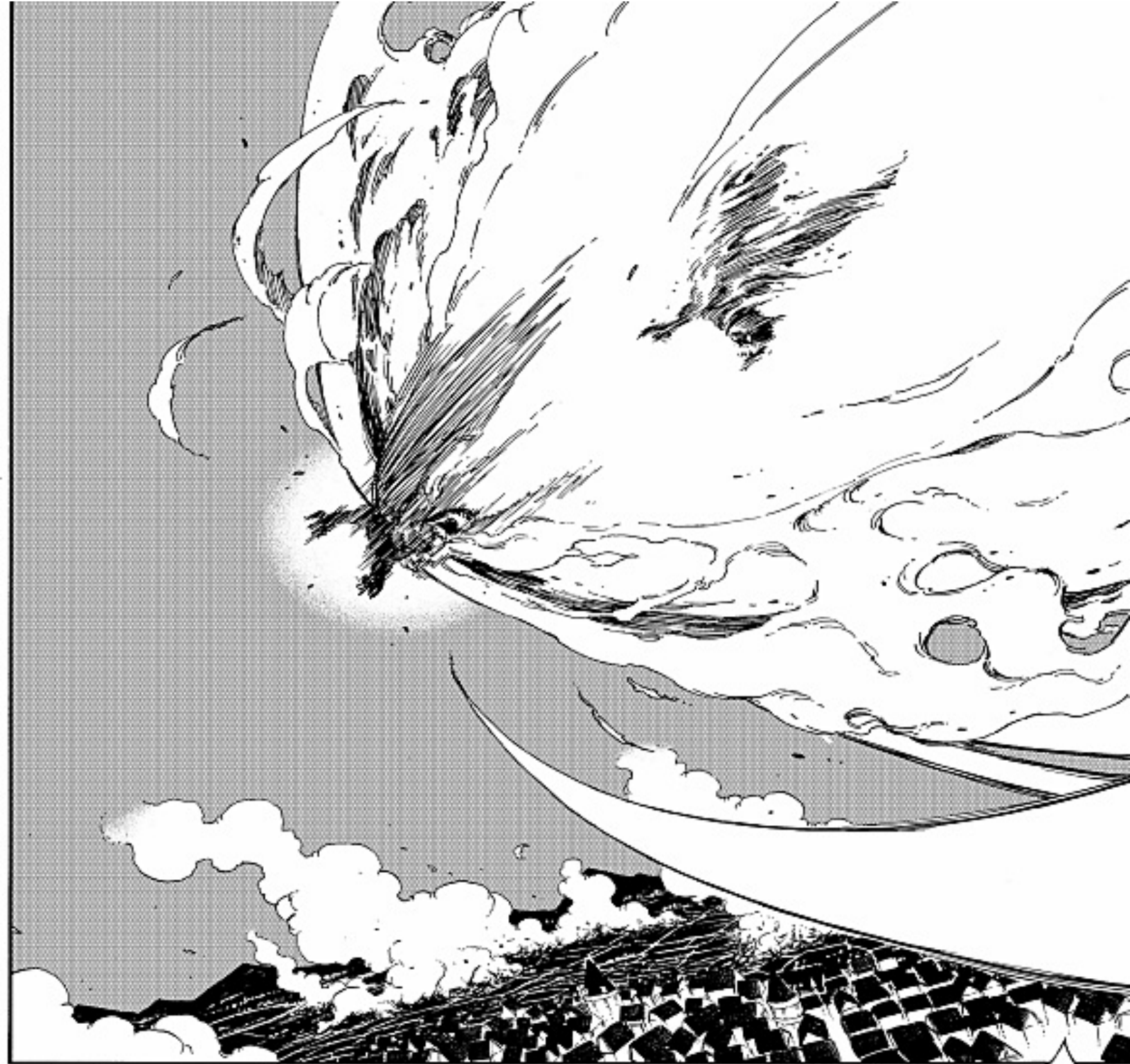
BWOOGH

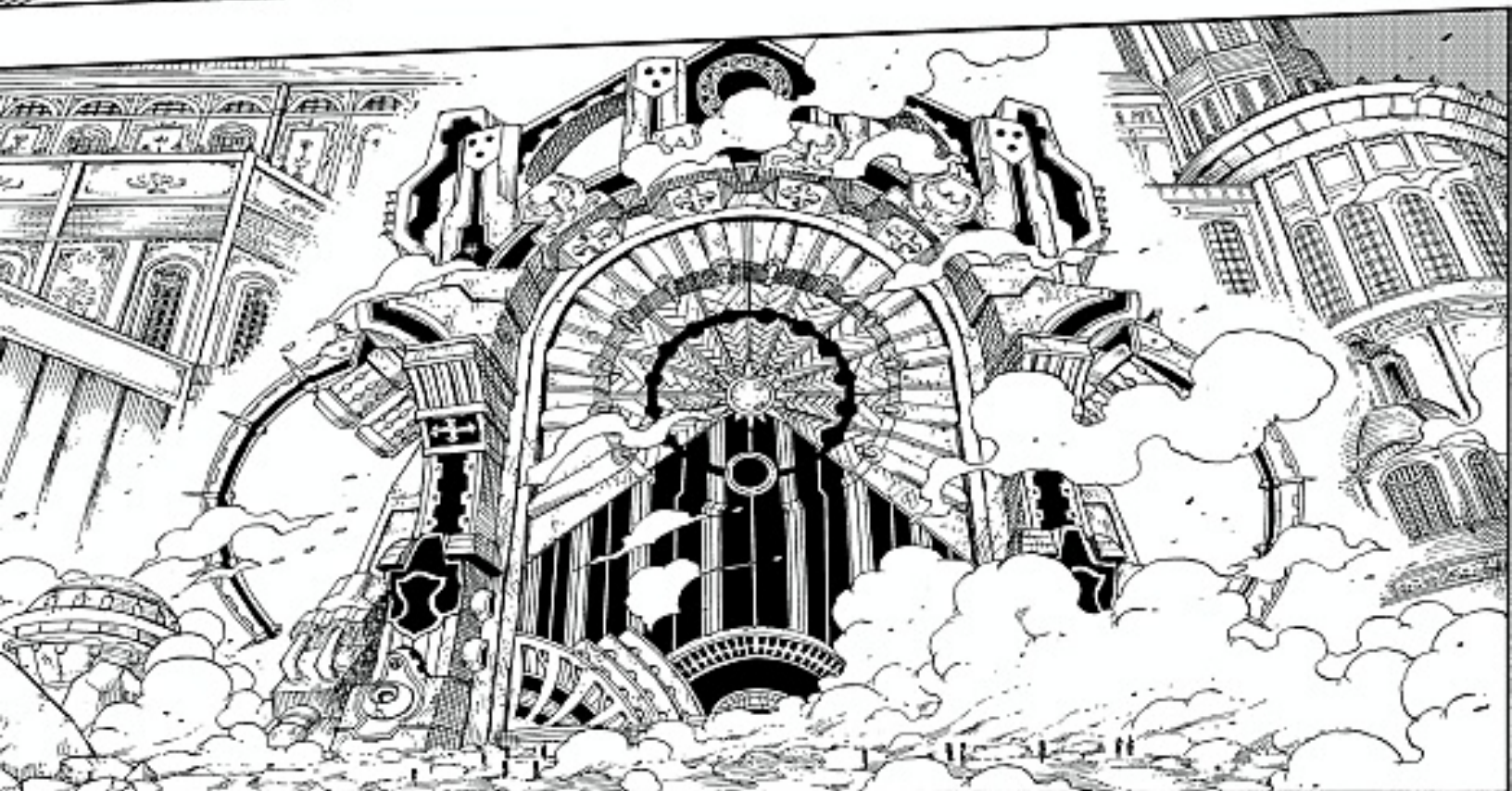
DWOOON





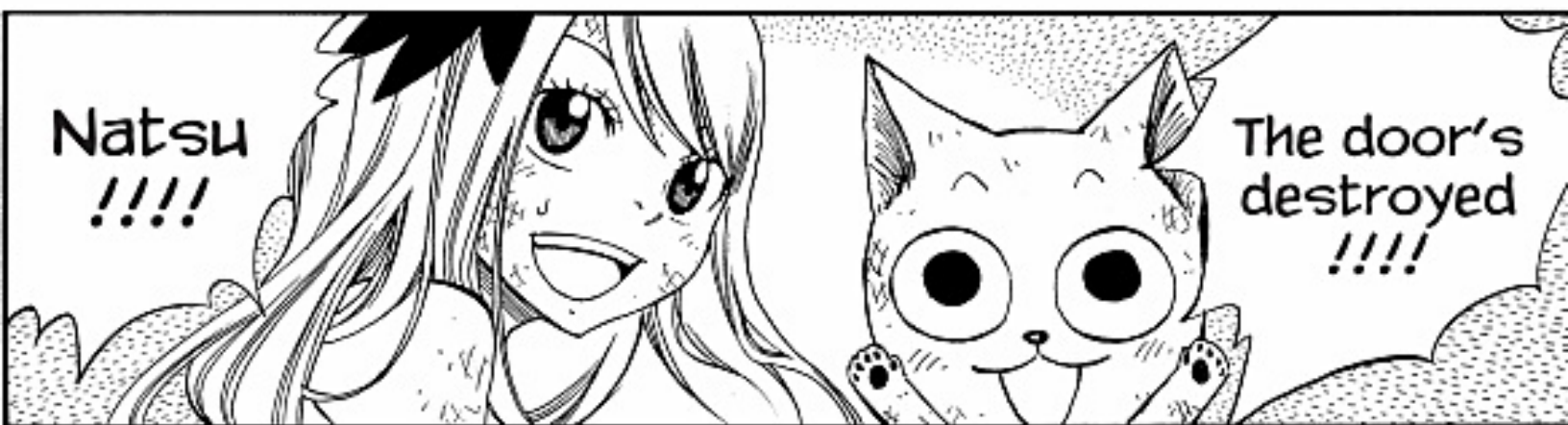
**I'll just
give
TODAY
all I've
got
!!!!!!**











Natsu
!!!!

The door's
destroyed
!!!!

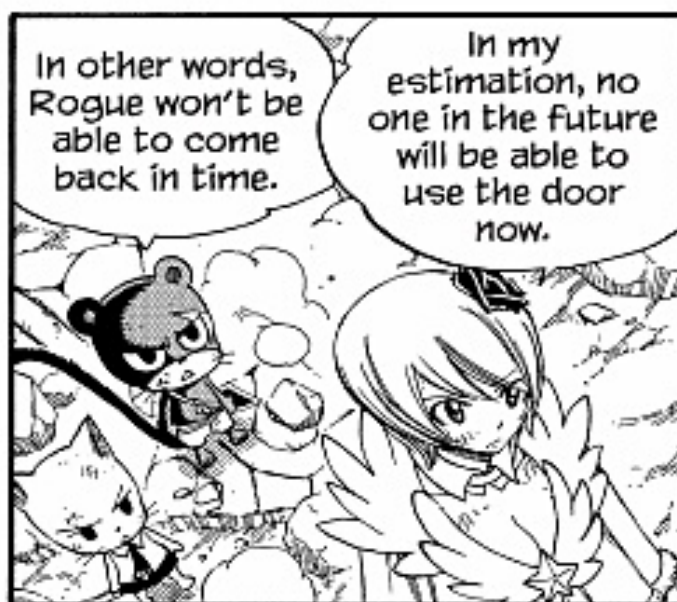
FAIRY TAIL

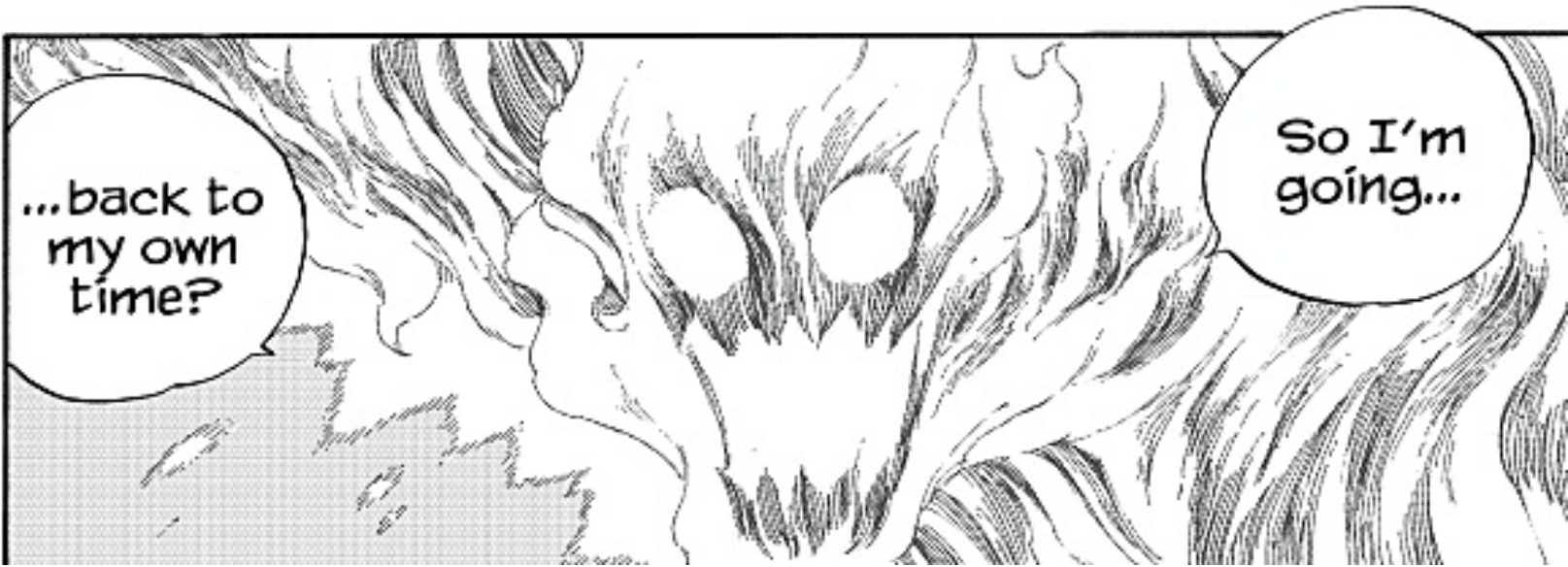
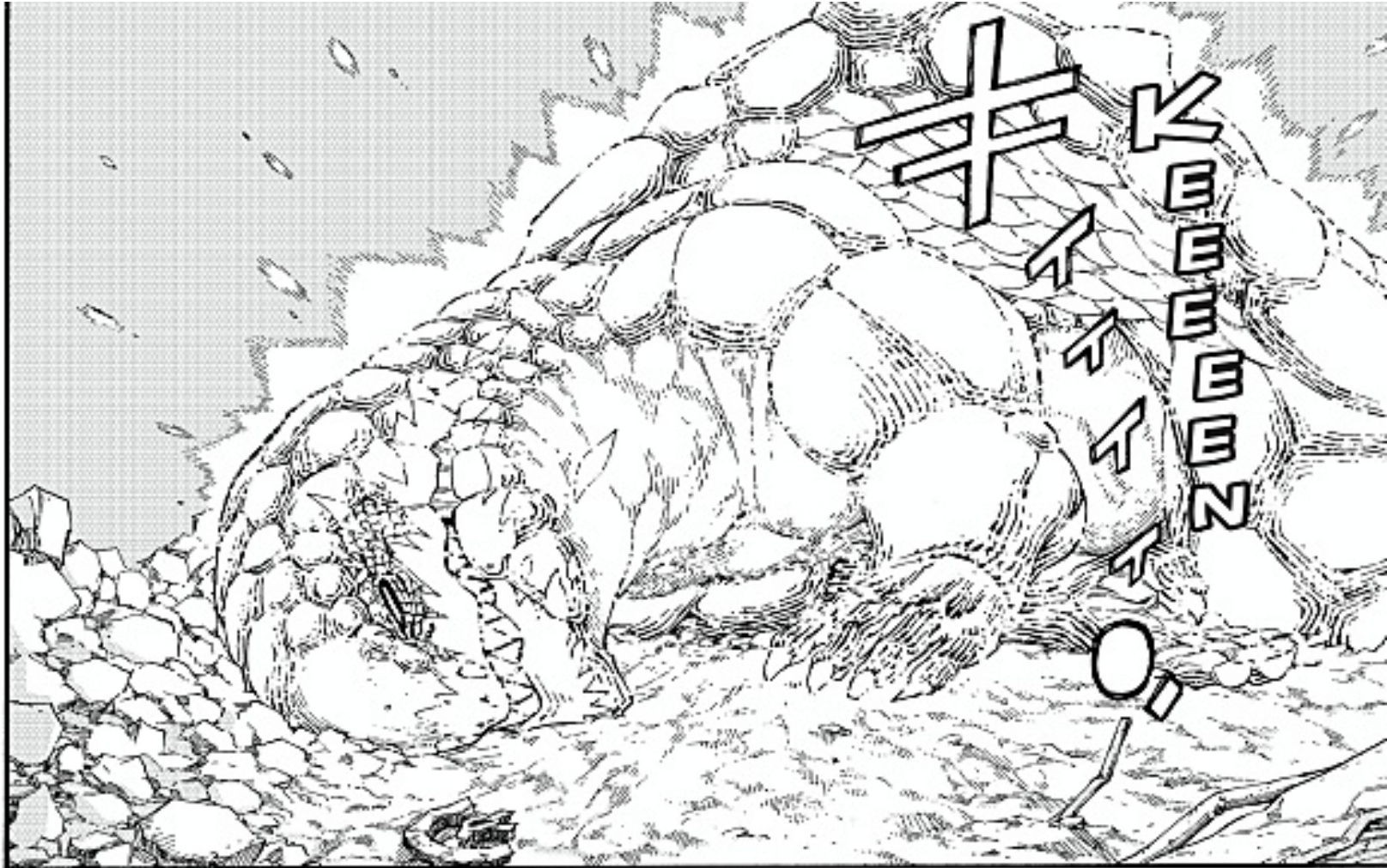
フェアリーテイル

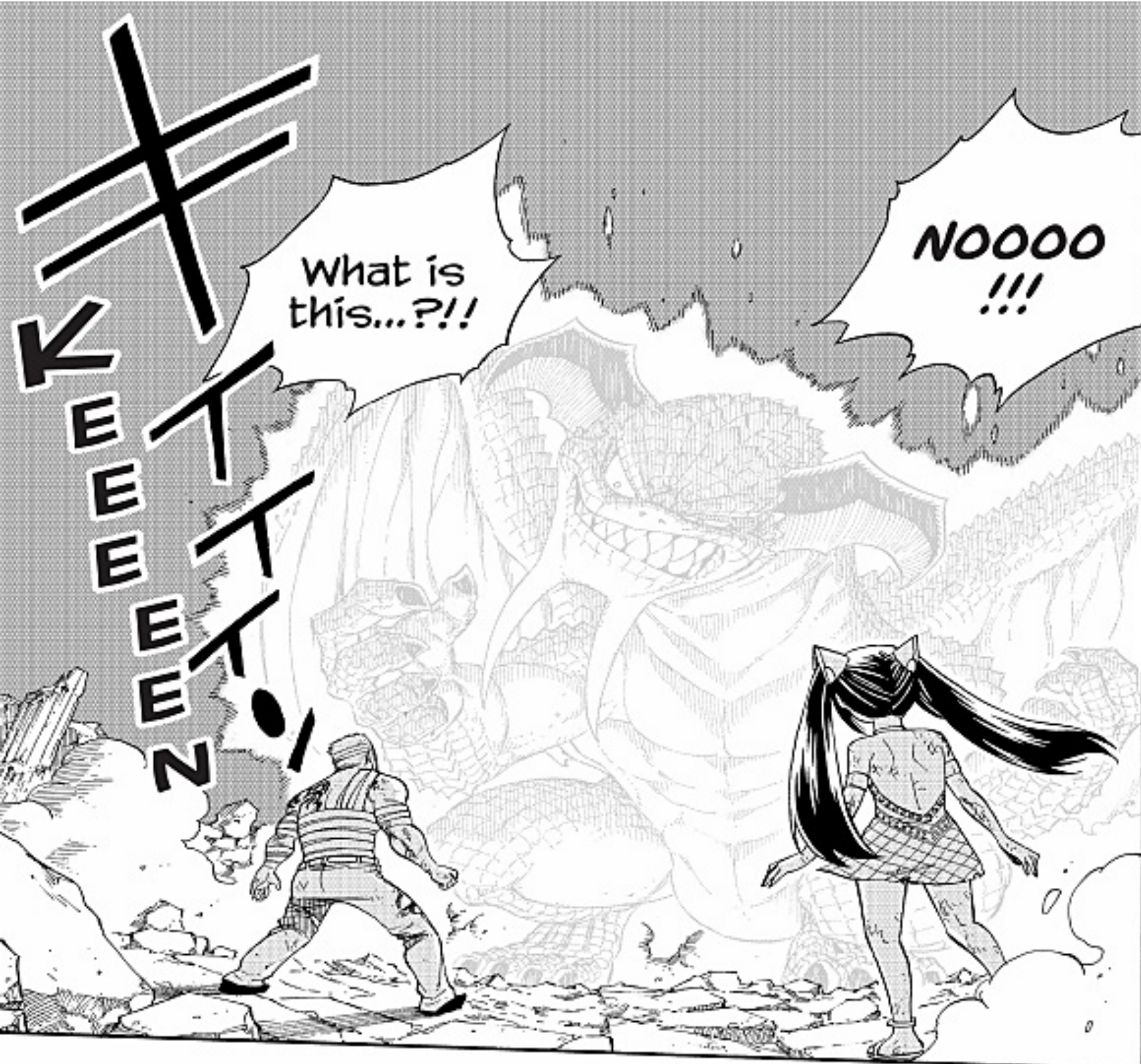
Chapter 337: The Golden Grasslands











Guh!

**Not by
humans
....!!!!**

**Not by
those
puny
humans
!!!!**

KIRIN!

**Your
Highness
!!!!**

H-
Hey...

It's dan-
gerous
here!!

I'm
sorry!



I am responsible for ruining the natural flow of your time!

I am the one who built the door that lead through time.



I am the one who warped the natural order!



In truth... we have absolutely no reason to make war upon each other!

You are a being who lived four hundred years ago!

My people live in this present.



Hisuí?

Hisuí E. Fiore!

Yes... My name means *jade*, the same color as your body.



Who do you think you are?!



The
very
same.



The
same... you
say?



**Oh Jade
Dragon.**



I was
going
to...



Whoa! Hold on
a second!!!
Dammit!!! You
tricked me!!!



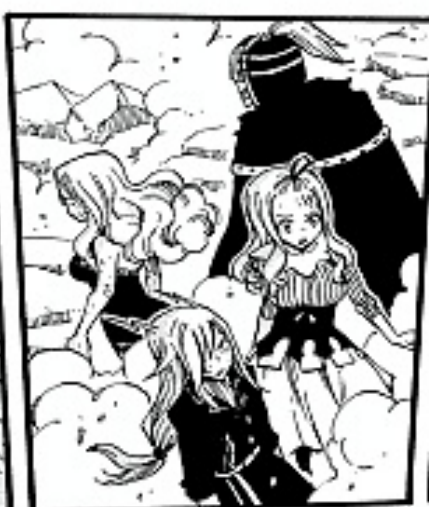
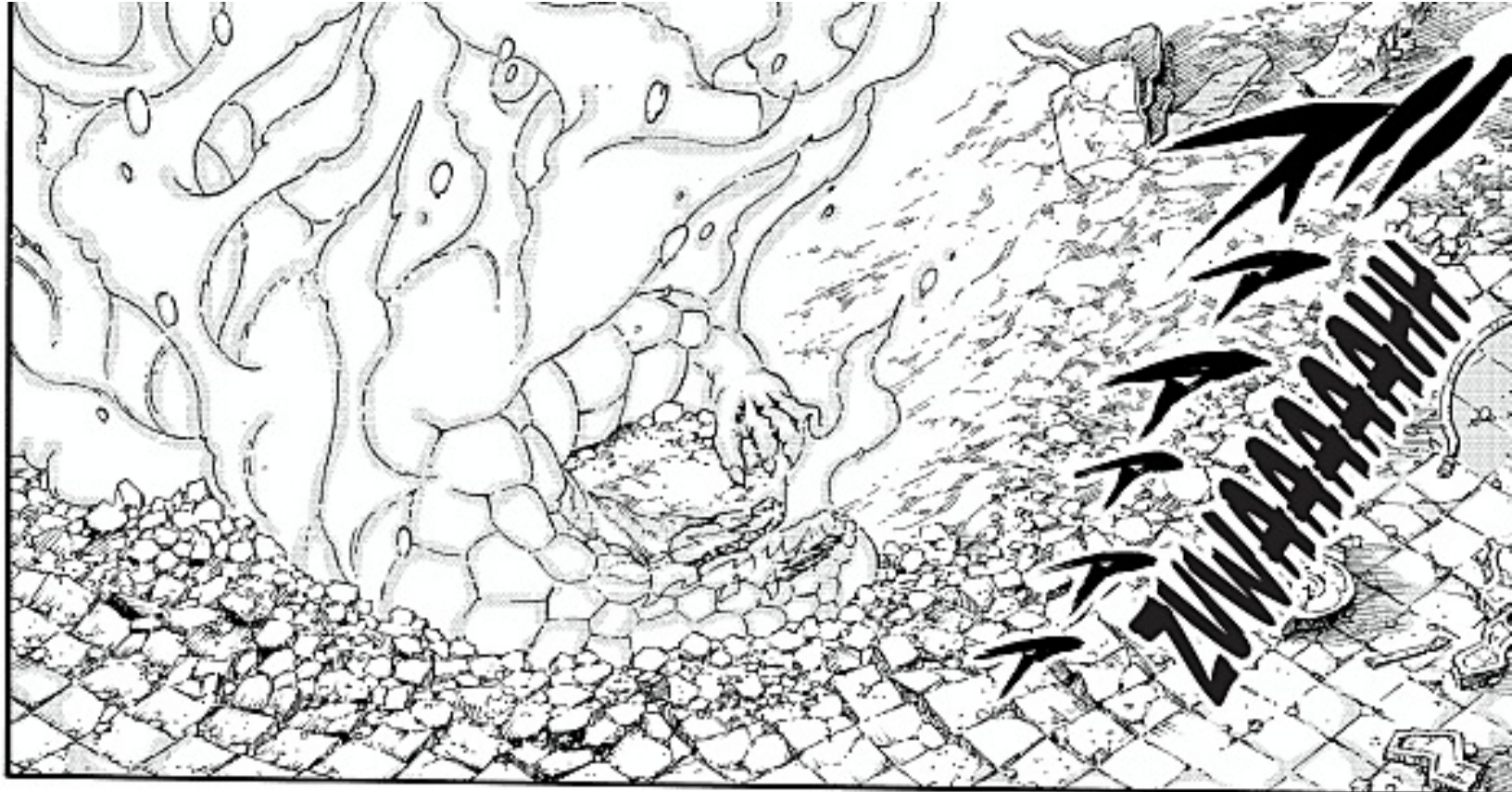
Hm?



Not bad.
It sort
of has
a ring
to it.

"Jade
Dragon
..."





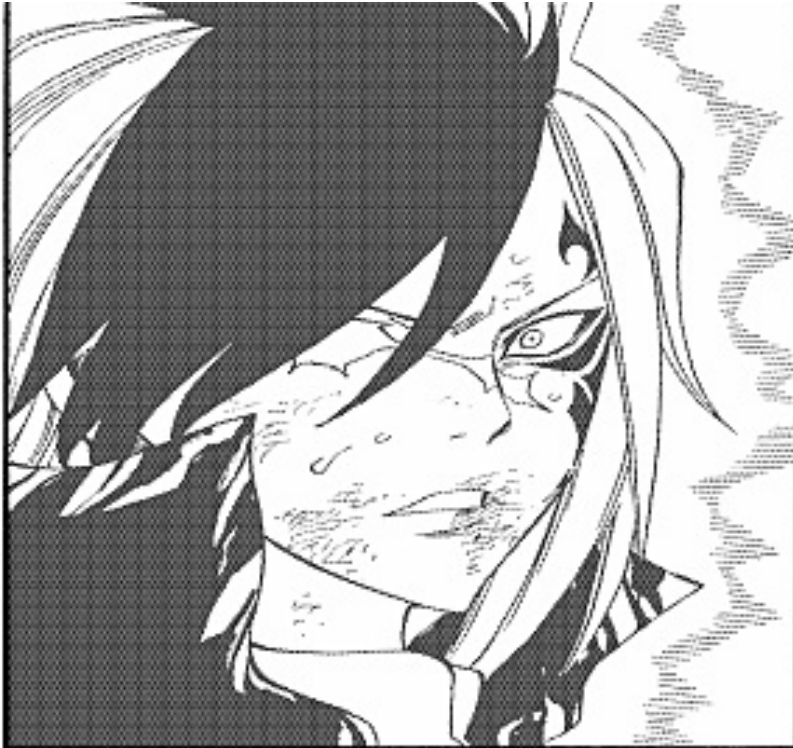
*Natsu
Dragneel!*

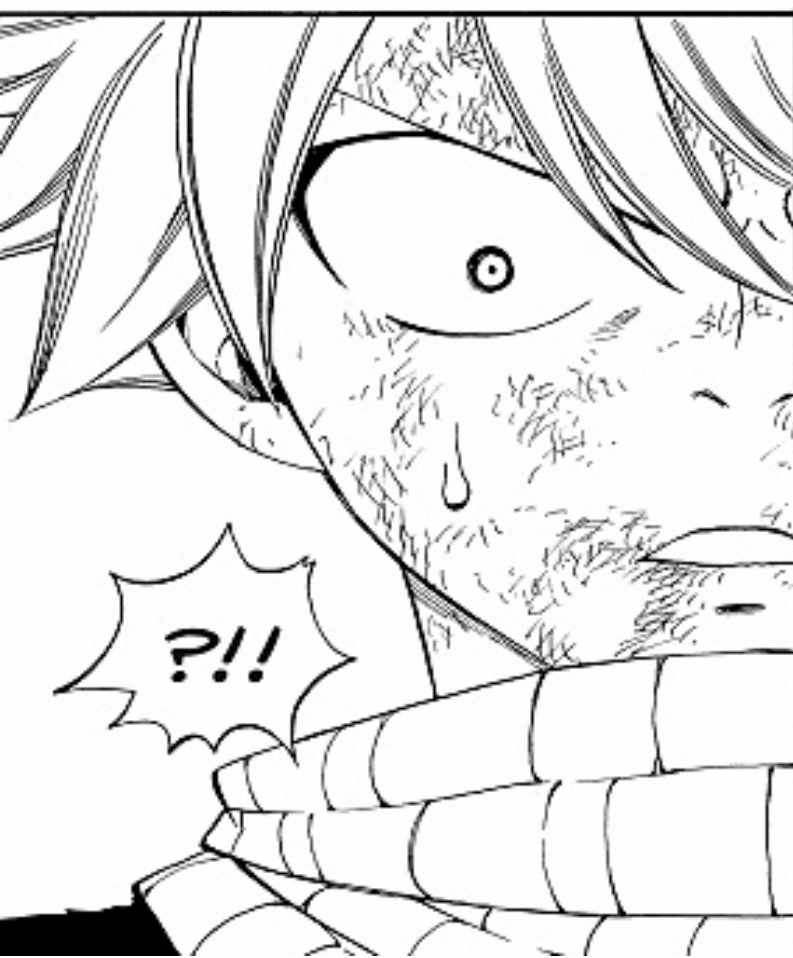
*I will not
forget
you...*



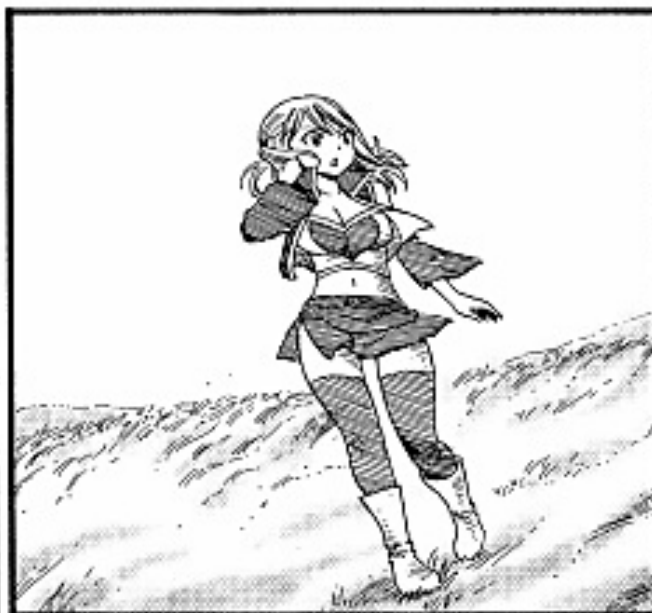












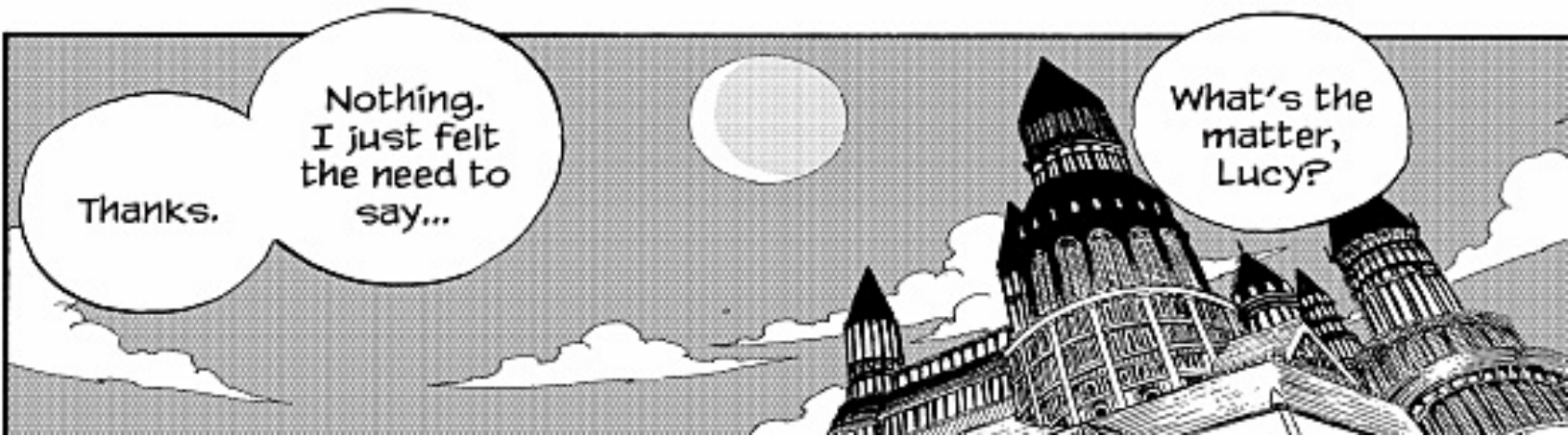


*We're in the
middle of an
adventure
here!*





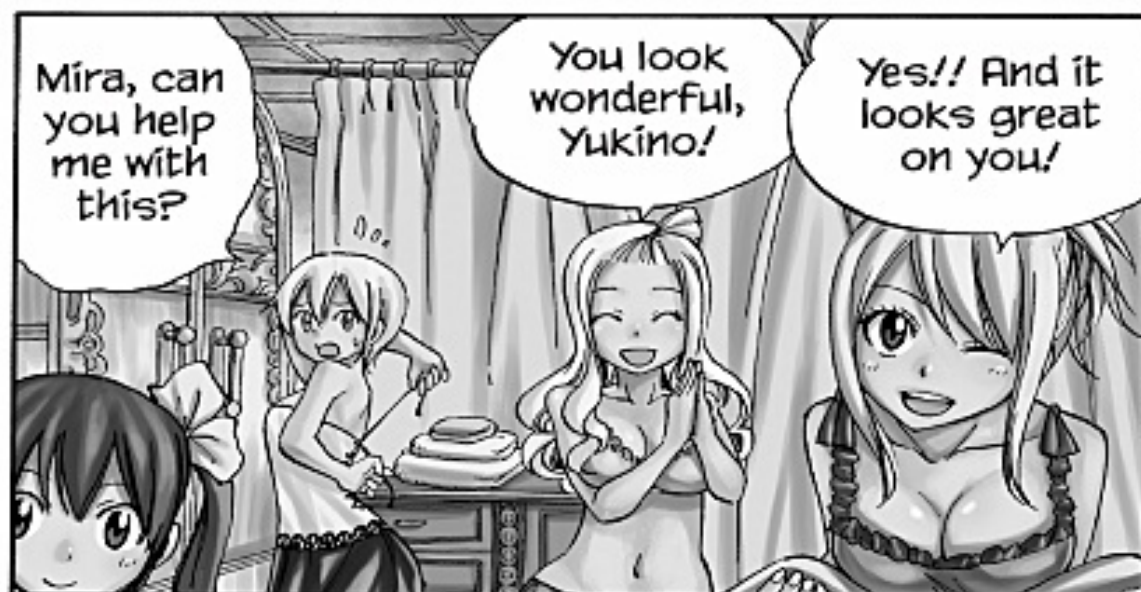
Tears
...?!



Thanks.

Nothing.
I just felt
the need to
say...

What's the
matter,
Lucy?







Chapter 338: The Grand Ball Games



 **FAIRYTAIL**



Several days after the Grand Magic Games...

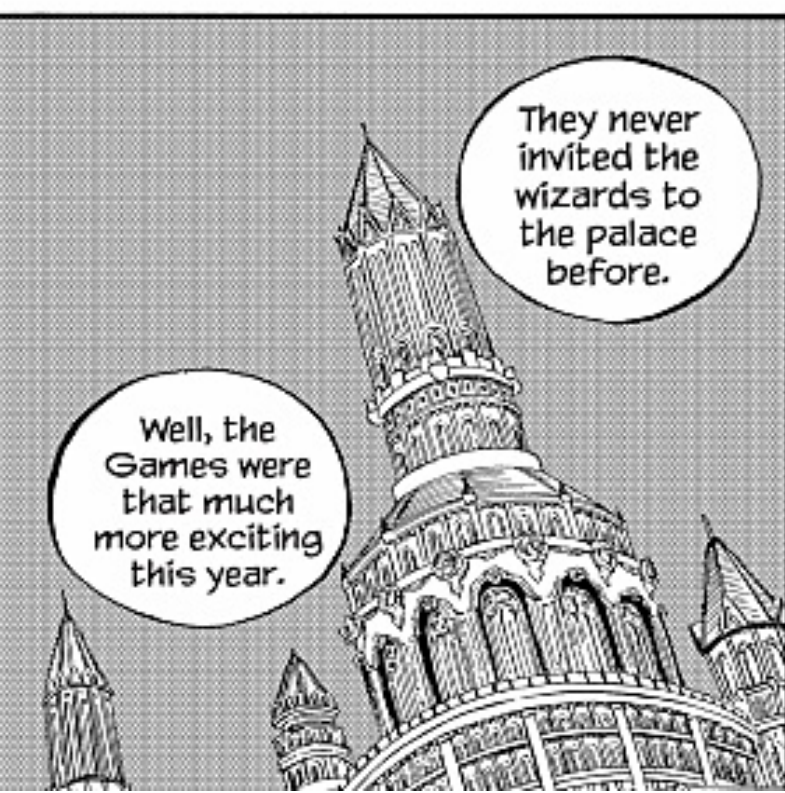


It was just some wizard's magic, right?

There are witnesses who saw it!

Don't be stupid! No way that could have happened!

I hear that the reason we had to evacuate was because dragons came and attacked!



Well, the Games were that much more exciting this year.

They never invited the wizards to the palace before.



Aww, man! I wish I could be there!

Come to think of it, I hear the wizards are attending some party in the palace today.

Over
here.

All of the
members
of the other
guilds are
arriving too.

At
least
I'm
dressed!

You look
ridiculous
in that
getup!

Yer
late!

Huh?
Isn't
Natsu
here?

Come to
mention it,
I haven't
seen him.

Whoever
thought he
would invite all
these ruffians
to the palace?

The king's
not skimping
on this, is
he?

All Hail
King
Ichiya!!

What a
resplendent
world this
is!

MURMUR
MURMUR





Oh!!
You're
here!!

Amazing
...

Wow!

MURMUR

MURMUR

MURMUR

MURMUR

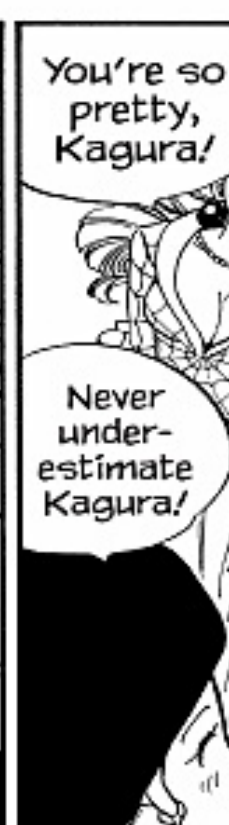
It's the
post-game
party for the
Grand Magic
Games!!!

Hey, Cana!!
You're in a
palace, you
know!!

Booze!!
More
booze!!

This
meat
tastes
great!!

A man
should eat!!
That's what a
man does!





I'm a wizard in a guild.

Trouble comes with the territory!



He did a great deal to help me, but...

...I've caused you nothing but trouble.

Ver. 1.1



Ver. 1.0



Ver. 1.2



Ver. 1.3



Juvia has now entered a new era of Juvias.



What are you, a machine, now?

Gray-sama, Juvia is now Juvia Ver. 2.0!



Isn't your pink-haired gentleman friend with you today?



Come to think of it, I wonder where he's got to?

If I don't like something, I come right out and say it!

I've entered a new era of Grays too.



JU-GONG!



Rejected.

TWIRL



Gray-sama, Juvia loves you!!!

Today, I have come to the clear understanding that Juvia is not pining after me.

Took you long enough!

No need to insult her, Gray.

Lyon!

Whoa!! Not liking the creepy new version!!!

Ahh! Juvia loves it when Gray-sama takes Juvia to task!

It's so pretty! I wonder what it tastes like!

Wow!! Look at that, Sherria! It's like a jewel!

It's not normal for Natsu to miss something this loud.

Hey, where did that jerk Natsu get to?

Hm? What was that?

Uh... Nothing. Never mind.

The first master ?!!

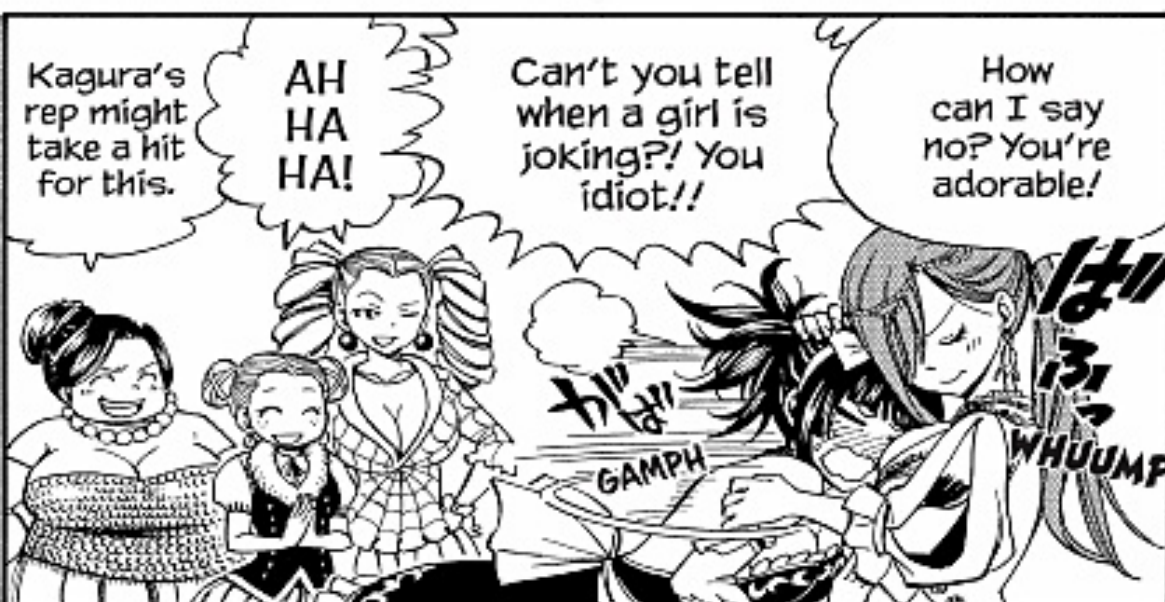
It looks very tasty...

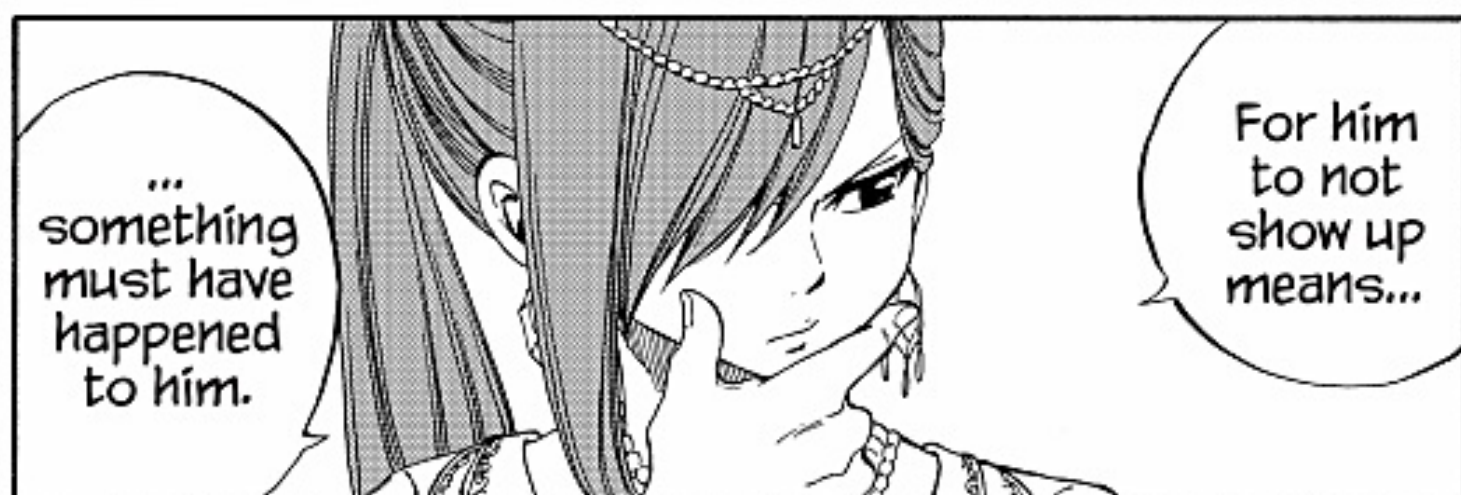
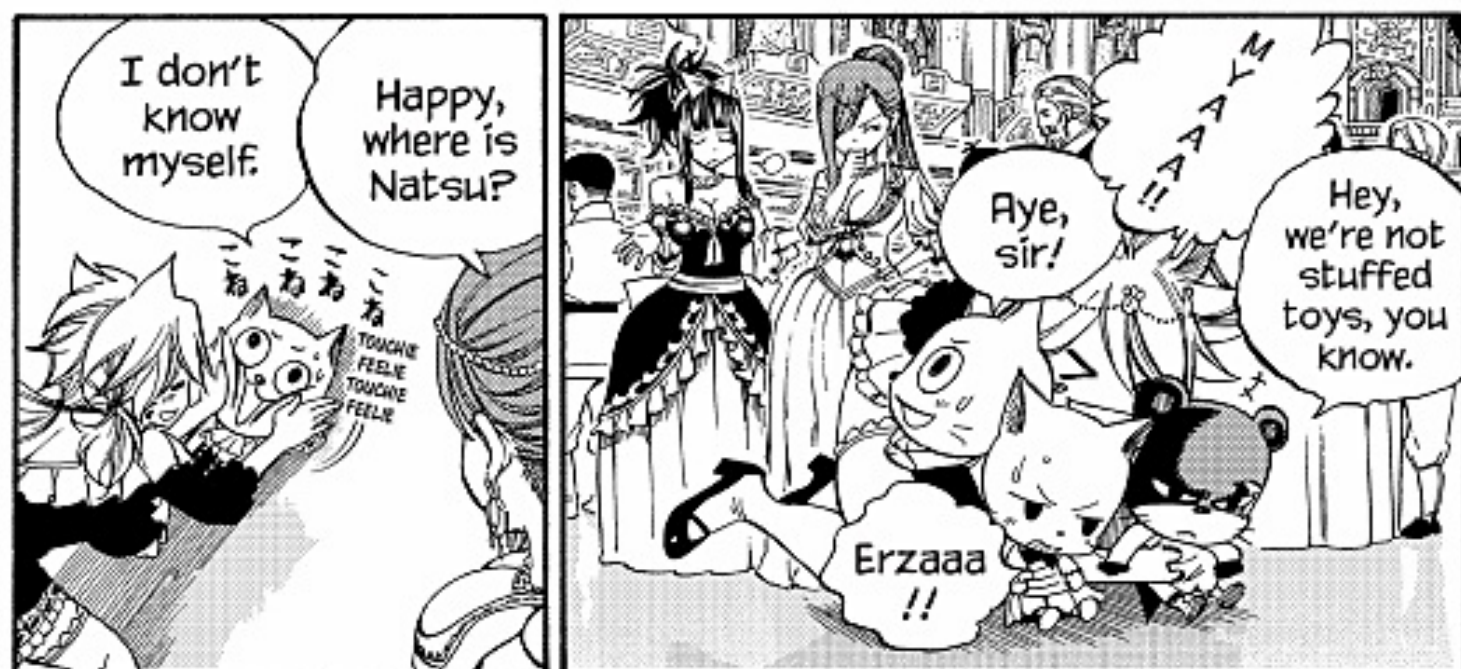
SOOO GOOD!



Only FT members can see her.









Salamander ain't here.



Let's have a drink together !!!

Natsu-san!

Come on, Natsu-kun, let's!!



Lios!

Fro thinks so also.

A failed mission, huh?

Huh...?! Here I thought we could toast our new friendship together!!

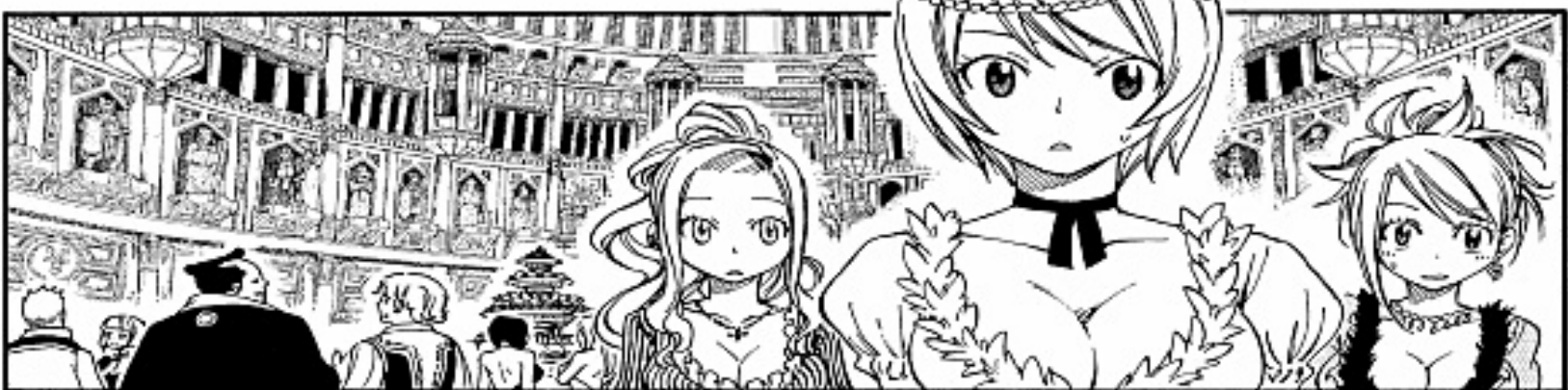
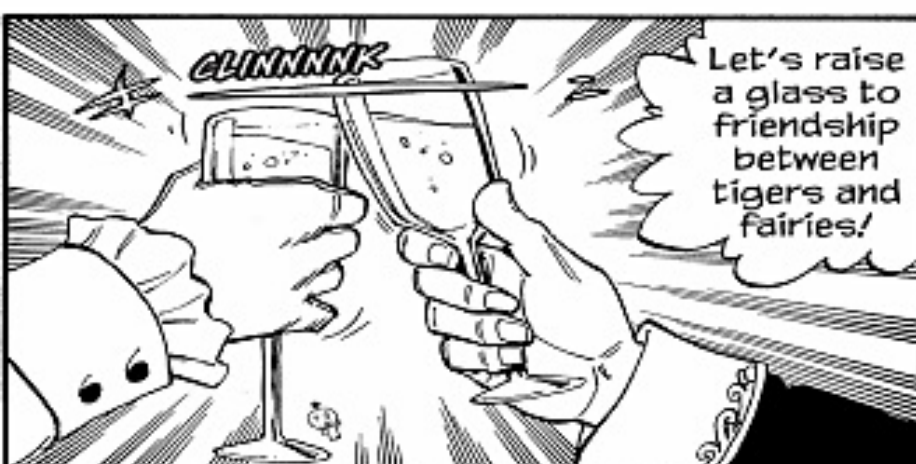


Fro thinks so also.

But I'm never going to become him.



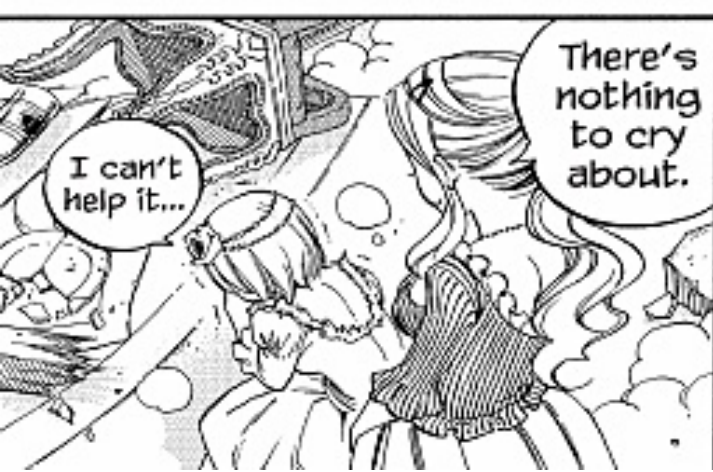
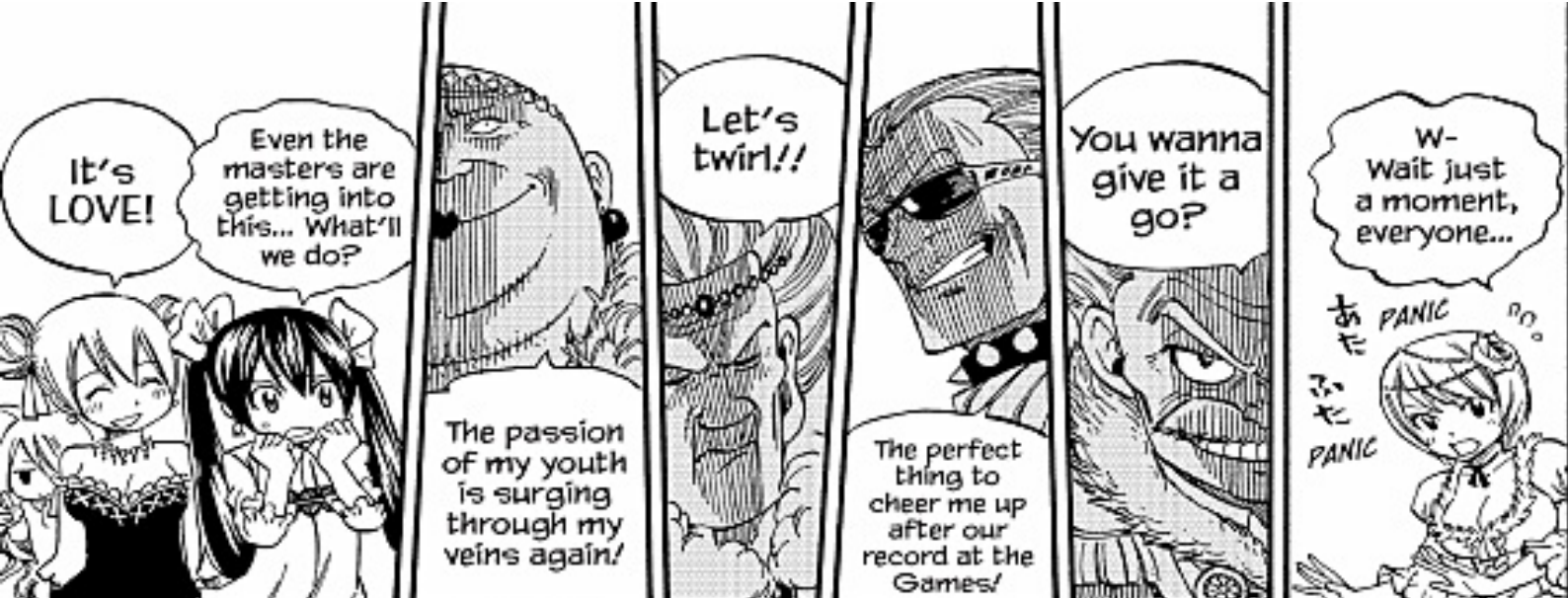
Did you hear about the guy from the future?





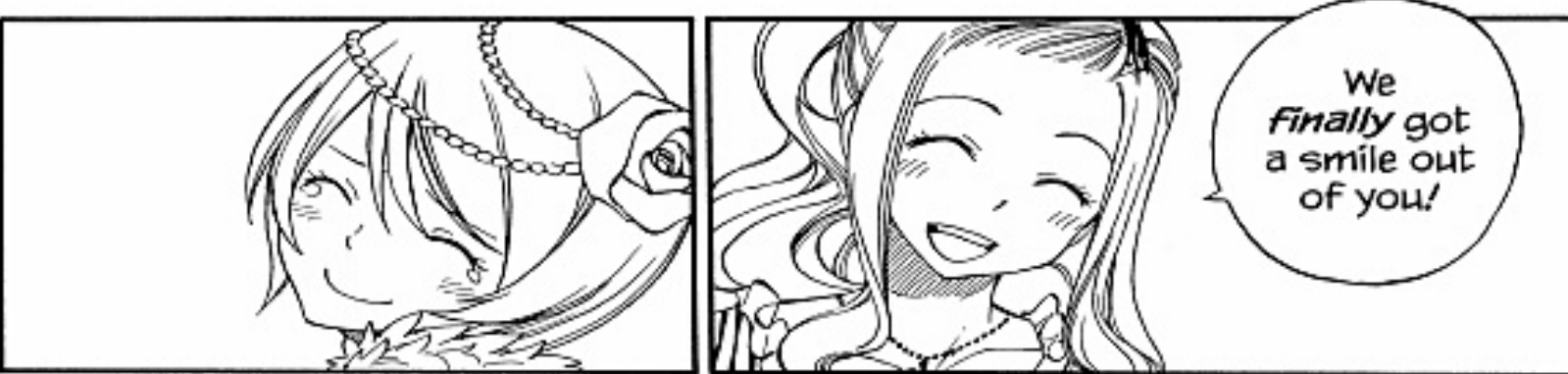








Even if they
don't really
mean it...
It makes
me so
happy...

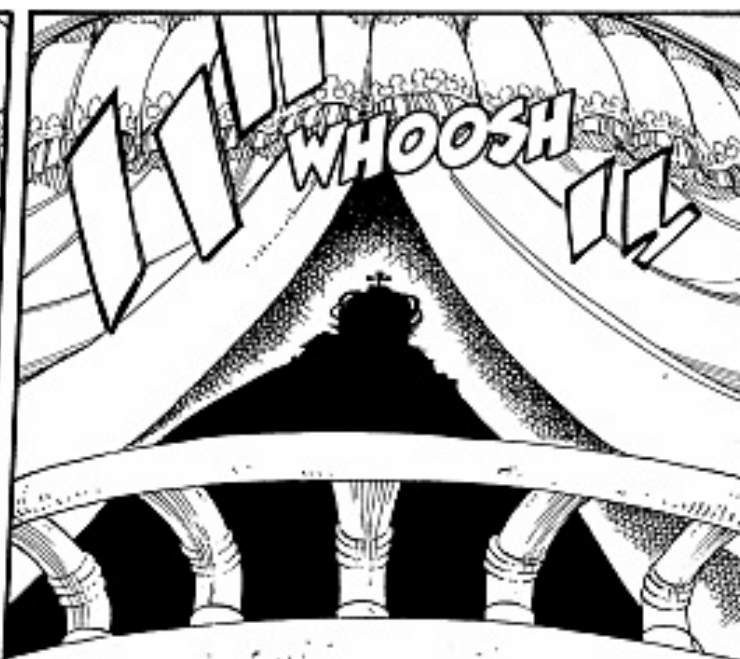
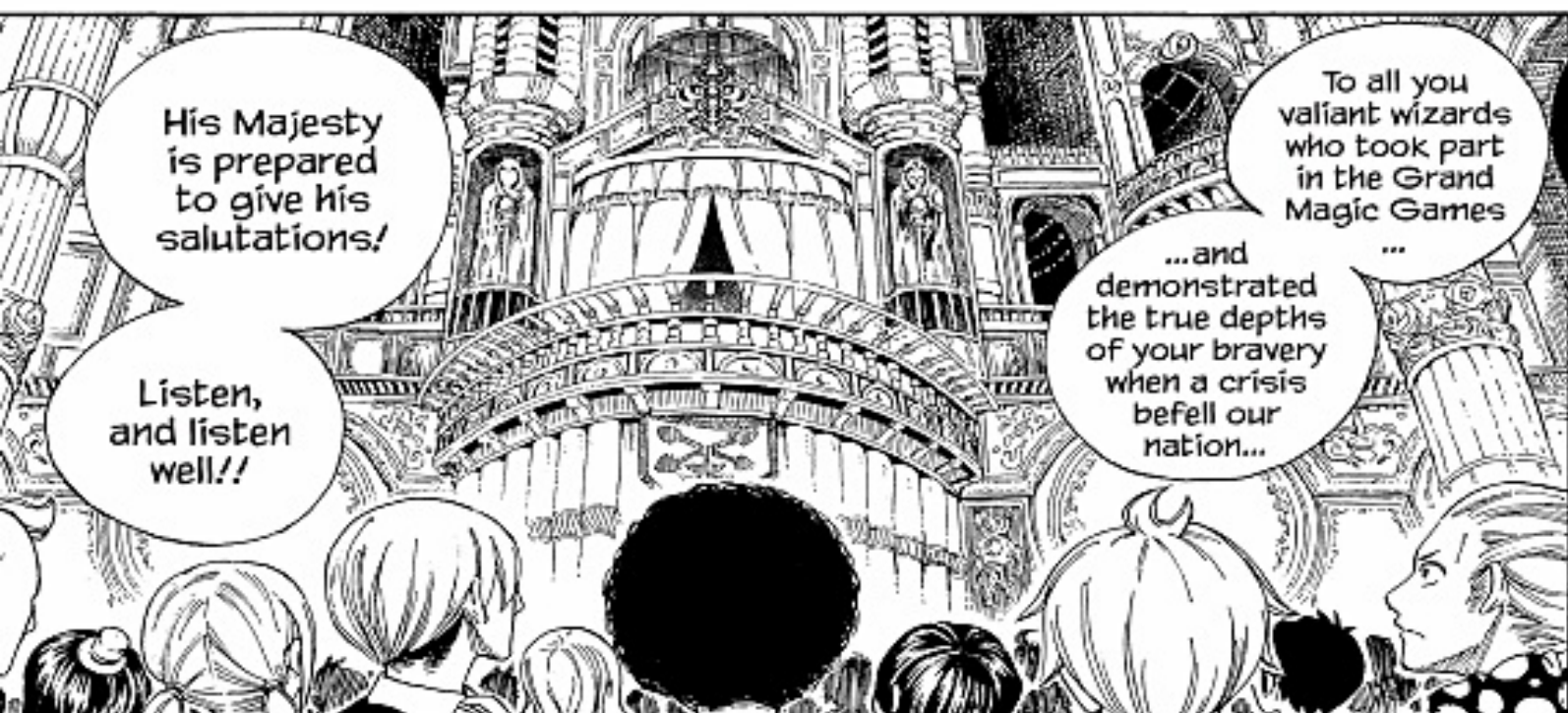


We
finally got
a smile out
of you!



You've got a
ton of places
hoping you'll
come home to
them!

Yes...





HAAAA

HA HA

HA HA

HA HA

!!!!!!
.....

BOOOOM



*Hey
there,
sub-
jects!
Be at
ease
!!!!*

*Give that
back!
Punkin!*

GO NNNNNNNING

All hail
King
Natsu!!!!



I am
the
king
now
!!!!

W-We
can't beat
him...

Hungry
Wolf
Knights,
sick
him!



フマッ
ZWOOSH



You're
going
overboard
again!

So let me be
King for a while!
And you all can
be my minions!!
Ah ha ha ha!!

What's the
problem?
We won it,
didn't we?!

Give it
back!
Punkin!

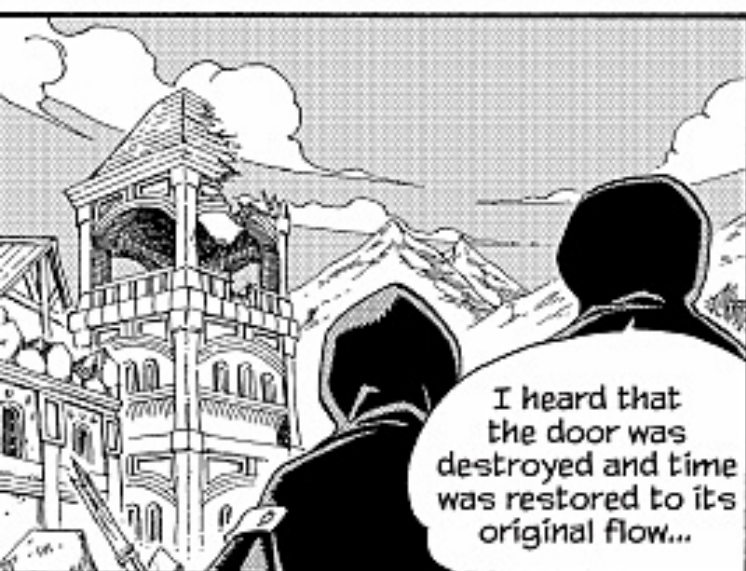
Give it
back!
Punkin!

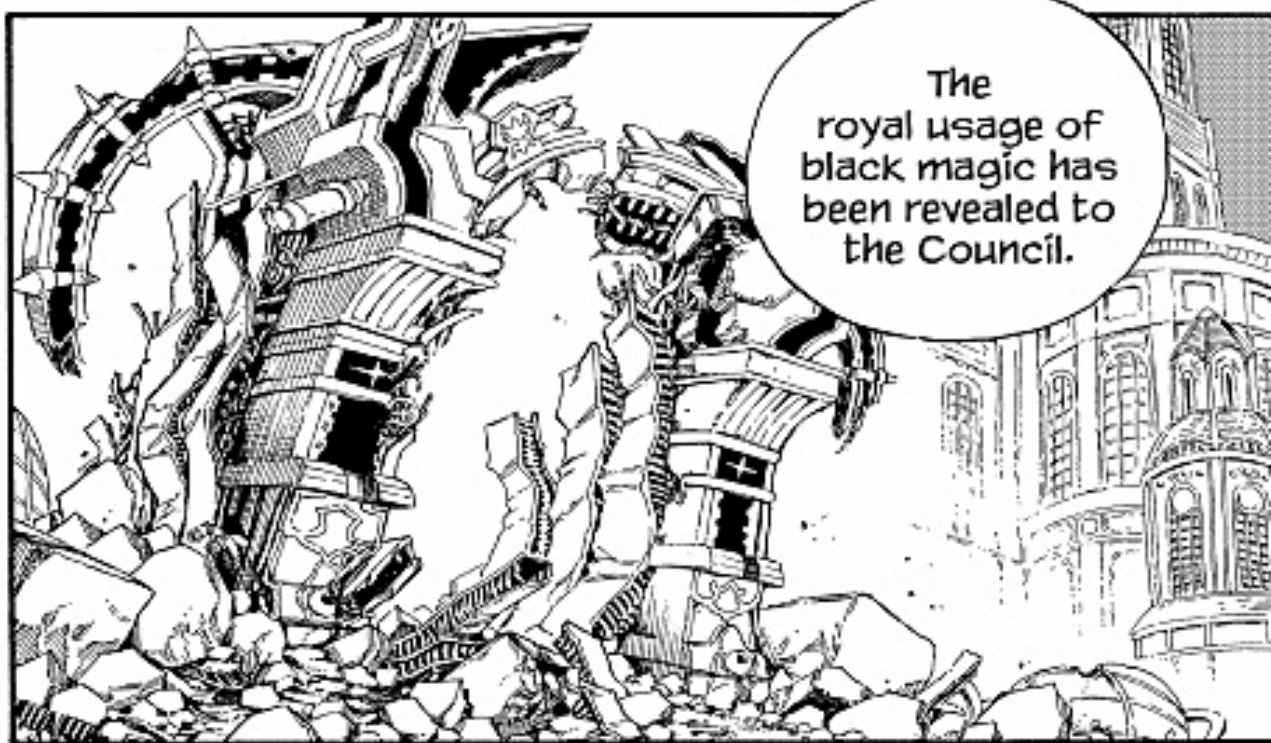


 **FAIRYTAIL**



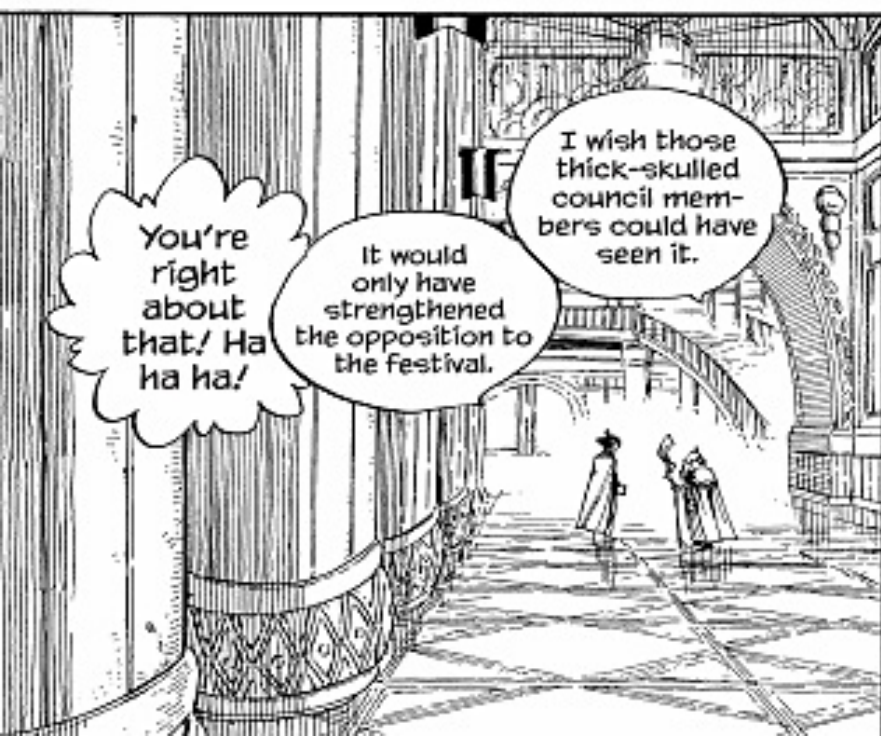
Chapter 339: Drops of Time







The
Magic
Council,
Era...





Yes...
They've been
rewritten. As
were the memo-
ries of all those
concerned.



You erased the
memories of the
Council?!



But what
would cause
you to do
that?

Yes, which is
why I do so
much under-
cover work.

That's
surprising...
You have that
power?



The people would lose their trust in the government, and if worse came to worst, it might even destroy the monarchy.

You will never speak of this incident to anybody!

"Eclipse" is one of the magics in the Book of Zeref.

Everyone would suffer if it was revealed that the royal family itself was involved in the use of black magic.



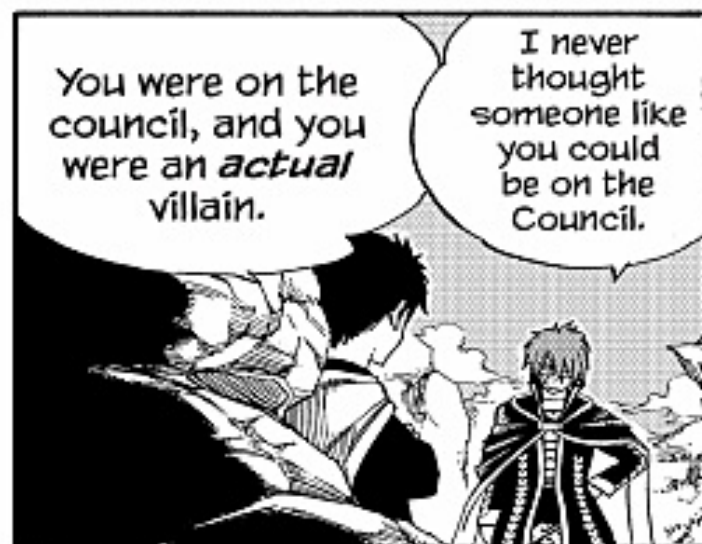
I'm surprised you managed to convince Lahar of your plan.



...but sometimes, you just have to look the other way, right?

Sure, as a council member, I have concerns about my actions...

I don't want to see the country collapse.



You were on the council, and you were an *actual* villain.

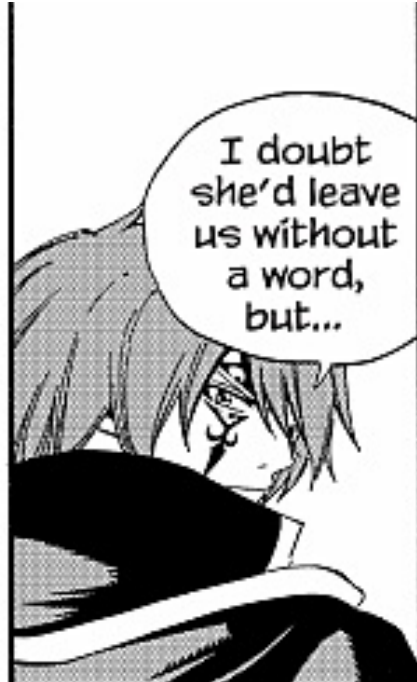
I never thought someone like you could be on the Council.



I'd rather not compromise his ethics.

He's going to be big in the magic world.

I didn't... I rewrote his memories, too.





Several
days
earlier...



He went
back
quietly.



*I never
thought
he'd come
back...*

*You're a
villain who
keeps his
promises?*



*Yeah... Here
you called me
for a job, and
I wasn't able
to slay a single
dragon.*

*I was
pretty
pathetic,
huh?*



*For now, I'll
stay quiet
and let you
lead me back
to my cozy
little cell.*



*Voices
?*



*I like it
outside.
I got to
hear a ton
of voices.*

*Cubellios,
I heard
your voice
too.*



*What
can I
say?*



*What
did you
hear?*

GRAB



*So I can
save all six
of us!*



*Until that
happens, you
better not
mess around
with my
memories.*

*The
gate to the
world of the
dead is gonna
open.*



It's
one third of the
trio that makes up
the Balam Alliance,
along with Grimoire
Heart and Oración
Seis.

The gate to
the world of
the dead?
...Tartaros?



An
eerie guild
shrouded in
mystery...

Are they
back in
action?



Tartaros
...

...but maybe
he's using it
as a bargain-
ing chip to
negotiate for
leniency.

I don't know
what kind of
information
he has...

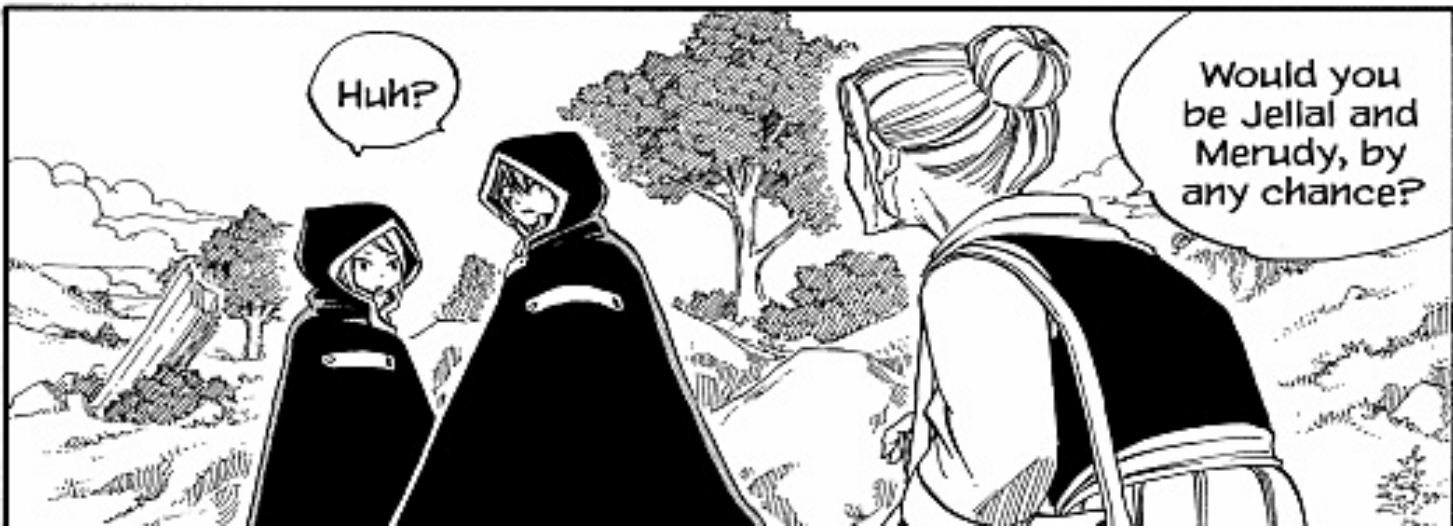


All
right!

Watch
out. Some-
body's
coming!

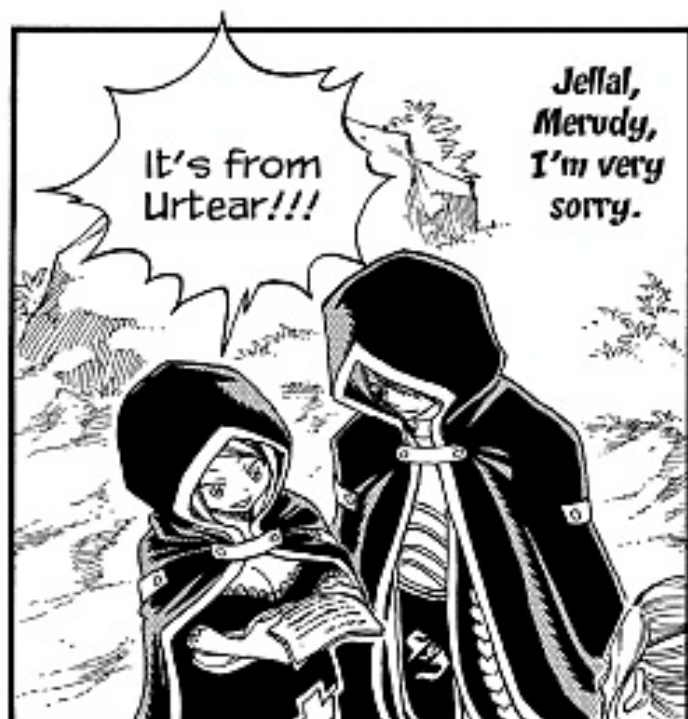


Excuse
me...



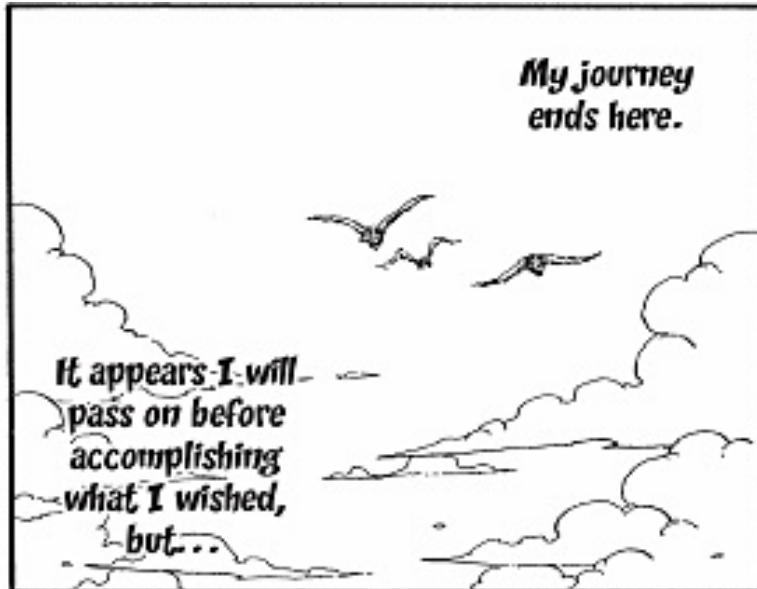
Huh?

Would you
be Jellal and
Merudy, by
any chance?



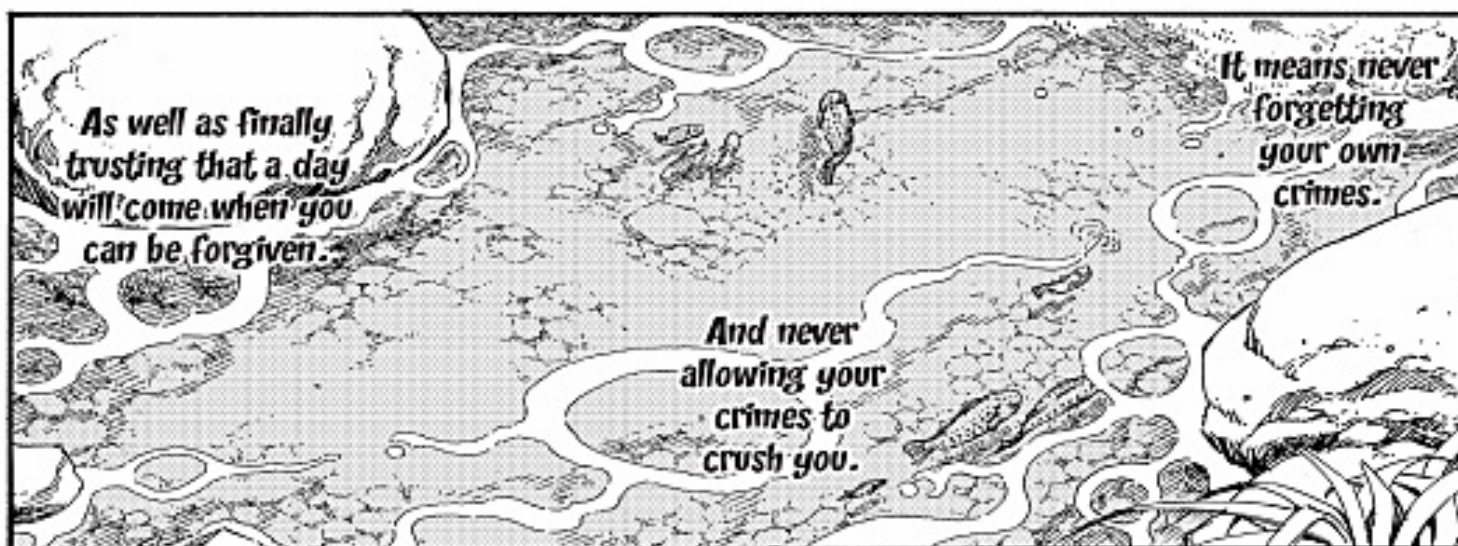


**Always keep in mind
the spirit of Crime
Sorcière.**



**My journey
ends here.**

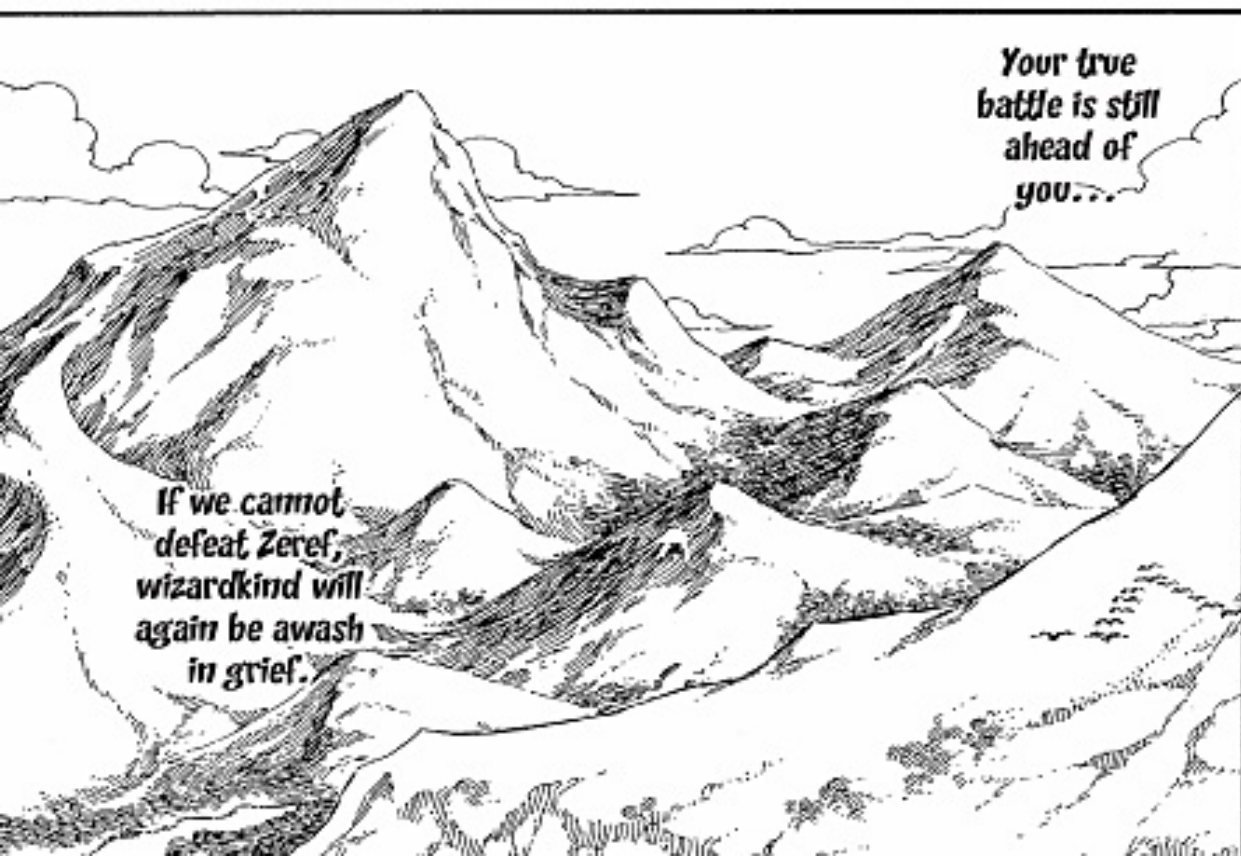
**It appears I will
pass on before
accomplishing
what I wished,
but...**



**As well as finally
trusting that a day
will come when you
can be forgiven.**

**It means never
forgetting
your own
crimes.**

**And never
allowing your
crimes to
crush you.**



**If we cannot
defeat Zeref,
wizardkind will
again be awash
in grief.**

**Your true
battle is still
ahead of
you...**

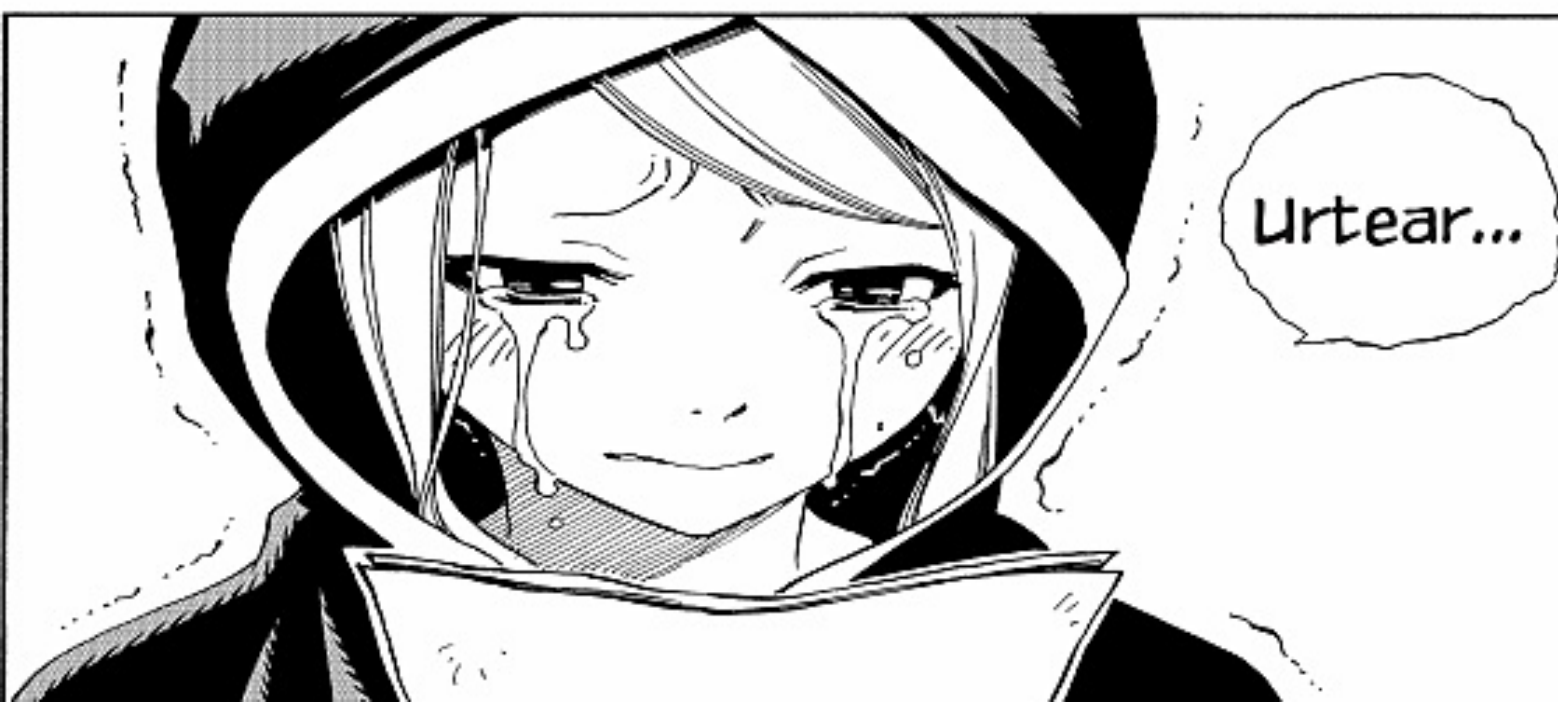


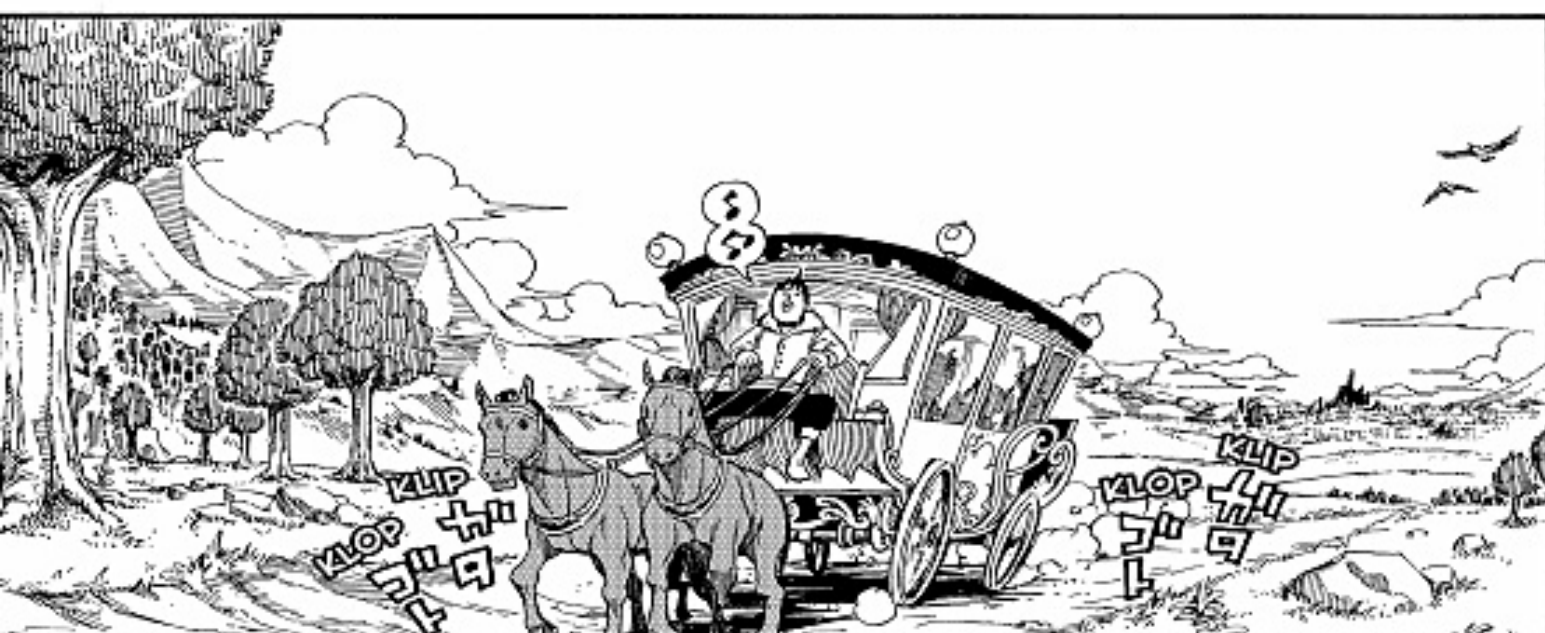
**It means
never hiding
yourself
from love.**

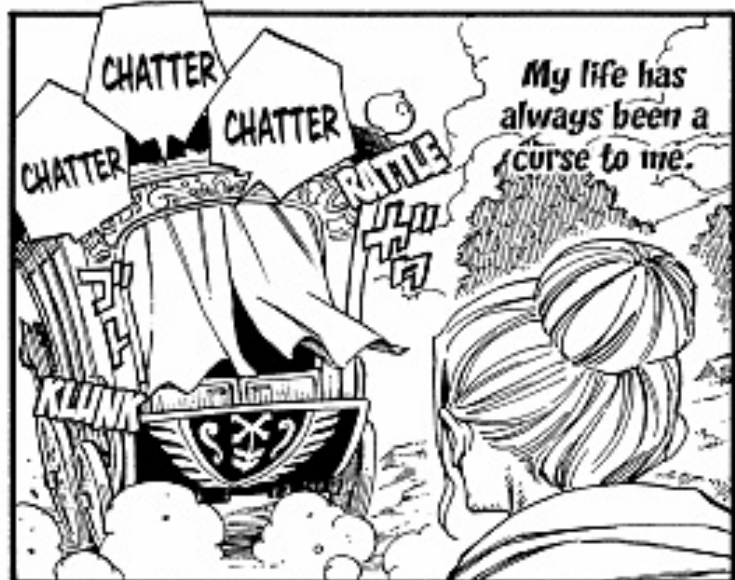


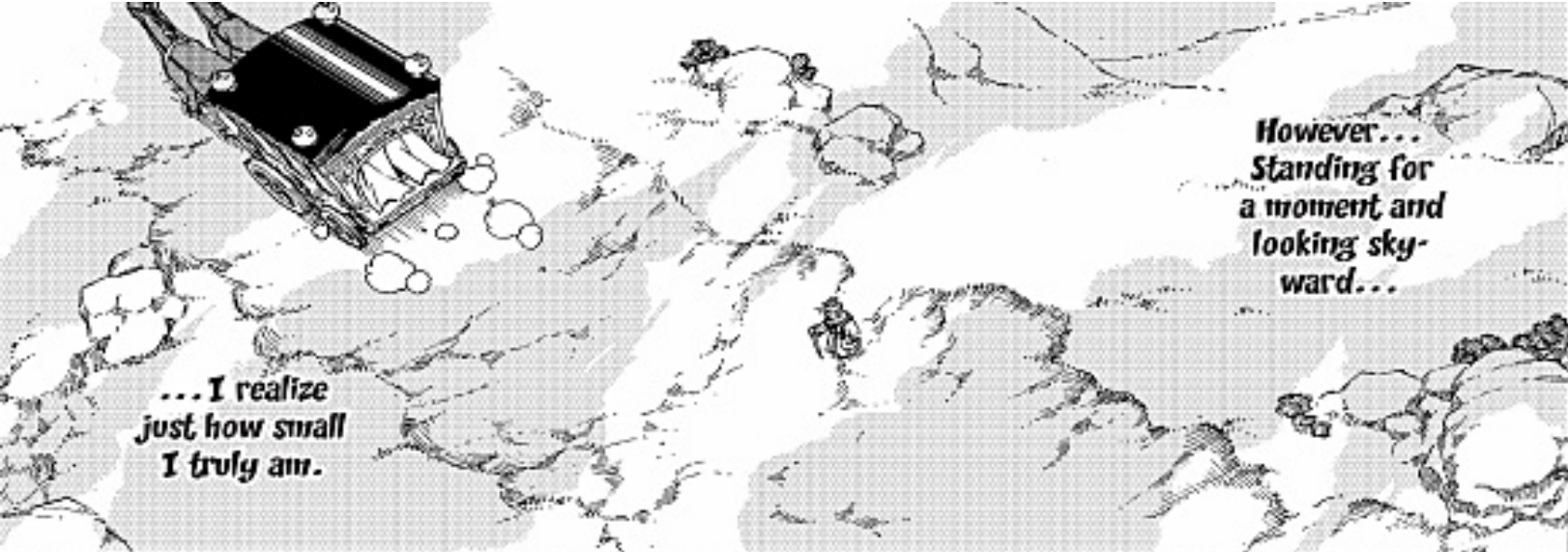
Please
live
on for
me...

...and
keep
fighting.



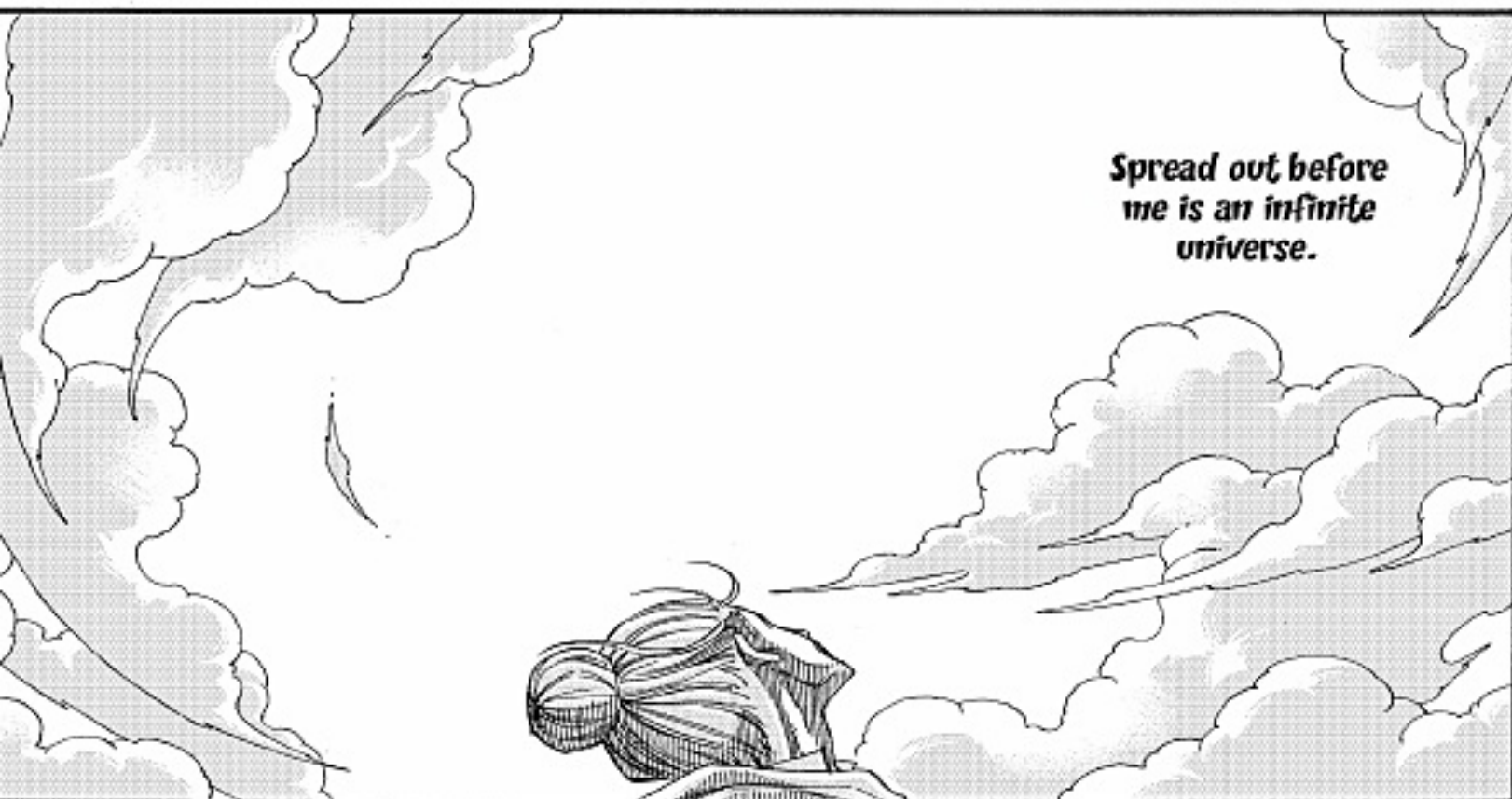






However...
Standing for
a moment and
looking sky-
ward...

...I realize
just how small
I truly am.



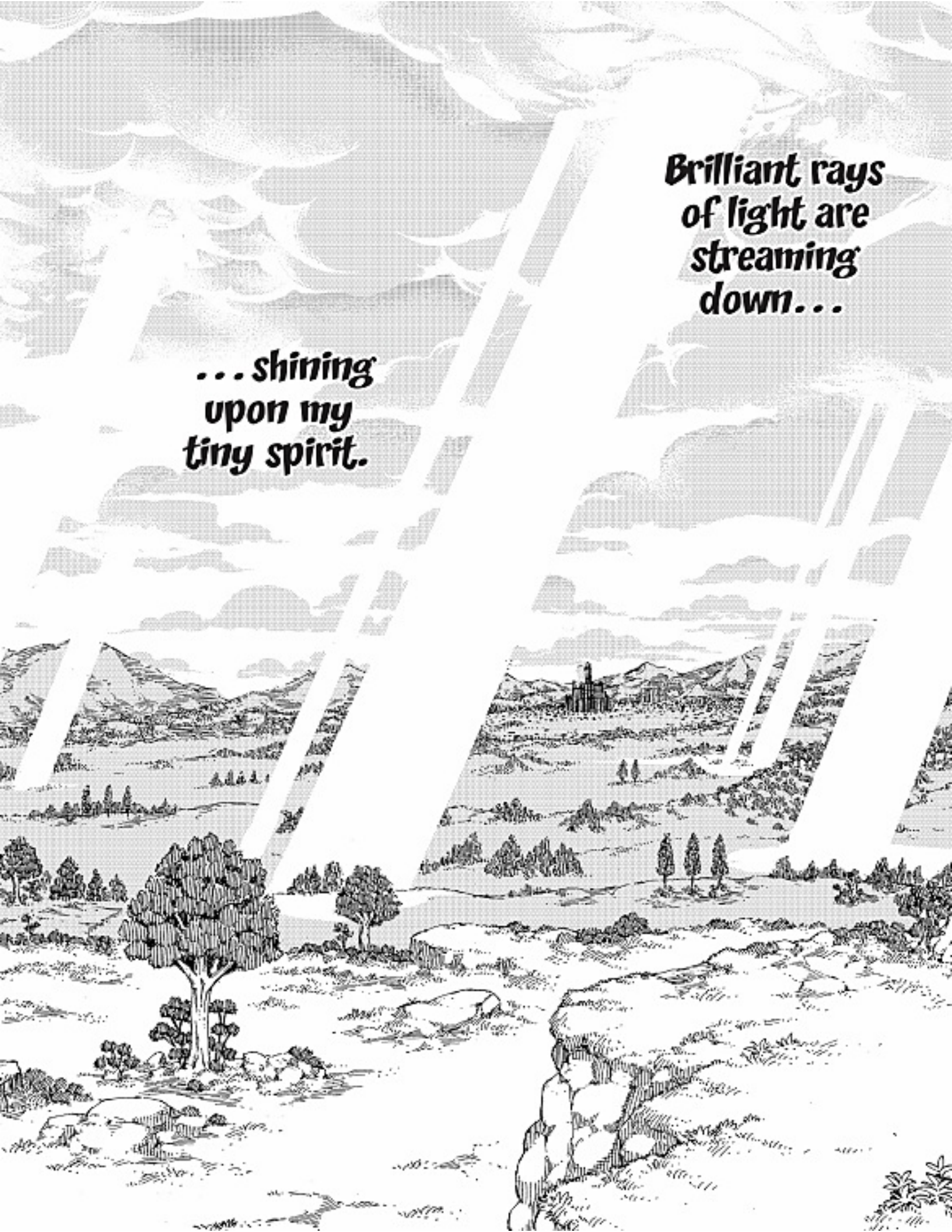
Spread out before
me is an infinite
universe.



**It almost
feels as if
my sins are
being washed
away...**

**...by this
gentle rain
of light.**

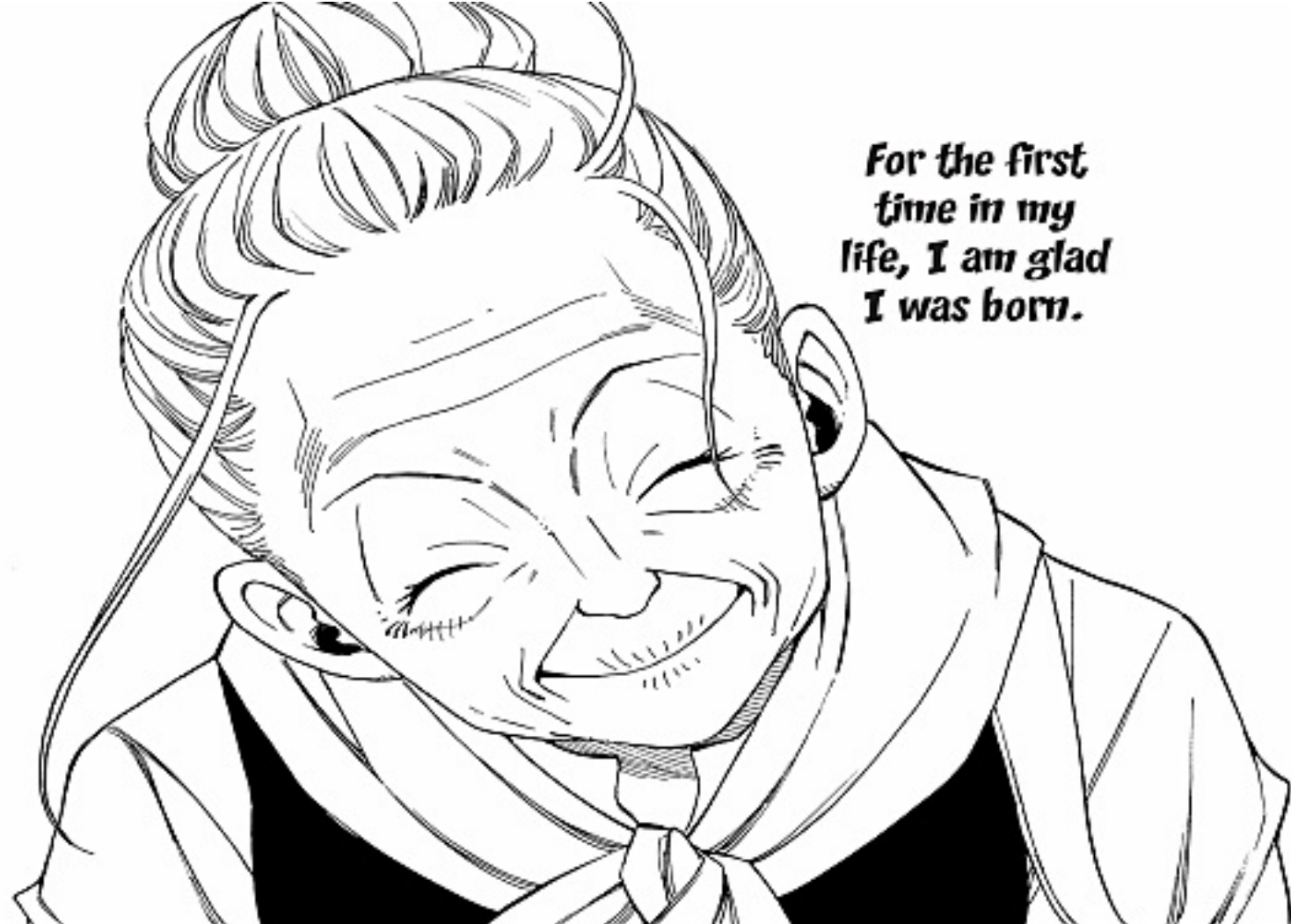


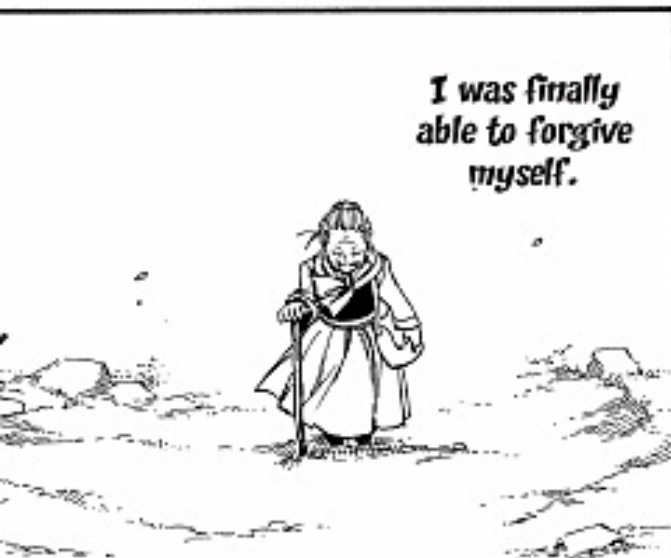


**Brilliant rays
of light are
streaming
down...**

**... shining
upon my
tiny spirit.**

*For the first
time in my
life, I am glad
I was born.*







Magic that
steals
time...?



Both mother
and daughter...
for me...

Why
would
they...?



...to those I
have loved.

Farewell...



 **FAIRYTAIL**



Chapter 340: Delivery



Quit
it, Elf!

We
did it,
Lisan-
na!

Hiii!

Mira-
chan,
look this
way!

Yaaay!
We
actually
did win
it!

We're
number
one!!

Ohh!
This is
impres-
sive!!

Dial
it down
a little,
Cana!

A party!
Booze!

Hey, let's
see some
energy out
of you!

I want to
thank every-
one for all
the support
you've given
us.

Fairy
Tail has
returned
in triumph
!!!!

Aye,
sir!

We're
home!

It looks like
people from all
over the region
are here.

Look
at that
crowd...



Ah, wait,
that's
not it!



You
really
kept it?

*The
king's
crown?!!*



*You kept
it?!!*



Tah-
daahhh
!!!!



**The
King's
Cup!!!!**

**Our
trophy
!!!**

**Yaaay!
Yaaay!**

**We
won!!!!
We won
!!!!**

After
all those
years of
being dead
last...

**We
actually
won!**

**I don't
believe it...
I still don't
believe it!!!**



*It was
a grand
achieve-
ment.*



**Yeah
!!!**

**Come on,
Romeo!!
Hold it up
higher!!!**



*You're
right.*



*...if you
refuse to
smile, that
is rude to
those who
came.*



*Gray-sama,
Juvia does
not know what
happened,
but...*





BOOOOO

**So, as a
present, we
have repaired
your guild
building.**

OOM

*Fairy Tail is
the pride of
our town!*





Aye,
sir
!!!!

The
guild's
back to
how it
was!!!!



The
entire
town
pitched
in...



No, no...

You are...
such a nice
mayor...



*I really
love this
town!!!!*









And I've anticipated a new age when those ills will be purged.

I've seen the wars of men, their hatred, the evil in their souls...



I've been watching the end of each age, over the course of hundreds of years.



Those worthy of my regard are already on the verge of extinction.

The humans are *not* living. Not in the true meaning of the word.



Even so, the people live on.



I don't know how many times... I've seen them make the same mistakes over and over...



I won't wait.

You...aren't going to wait any-more?

I've thought about it for seven years, and I've reached a conclusion.

X L A SHUMP





G WO

***I will
not leave
a single
one
alive.***



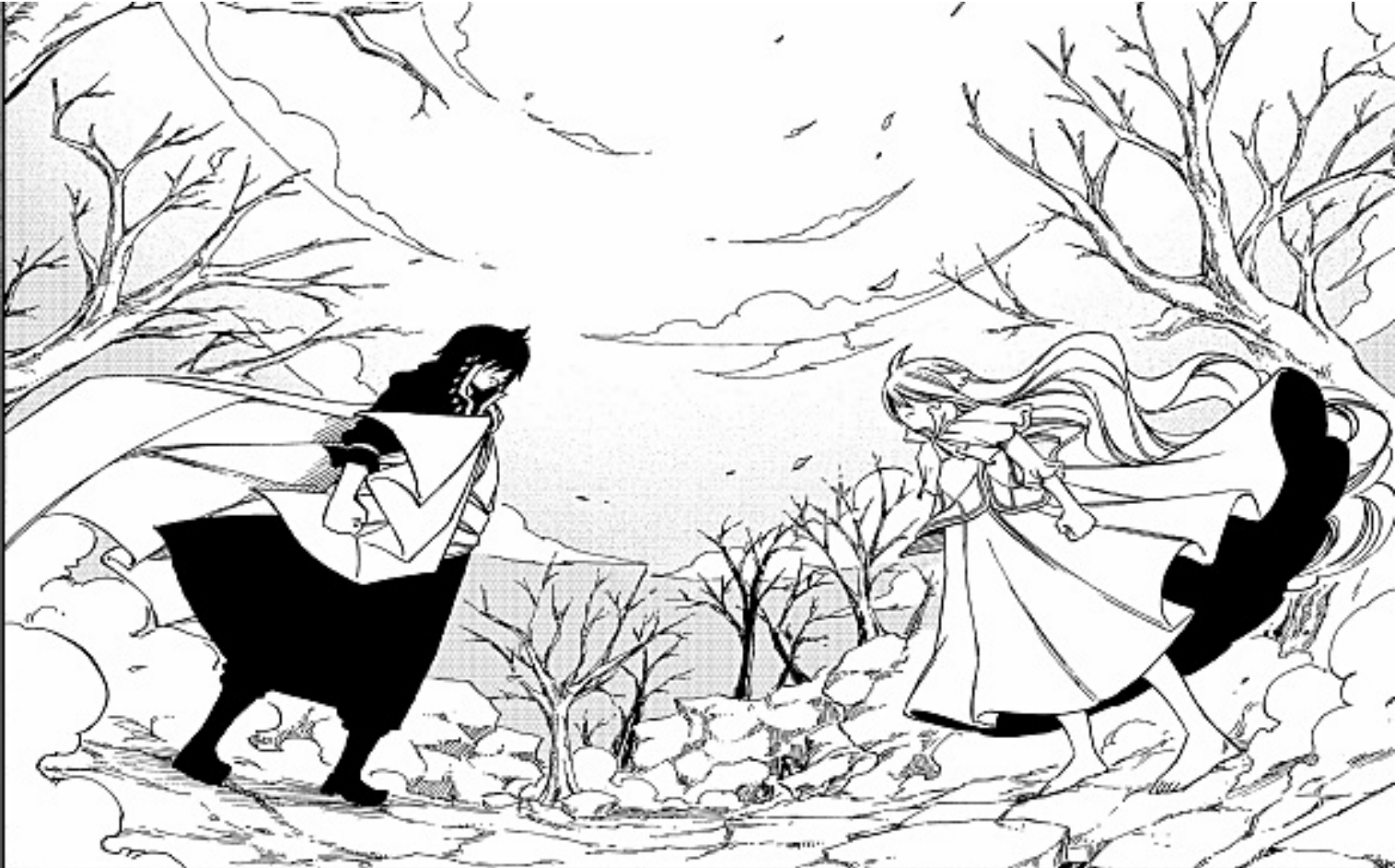
***This will
be an
extermi-
nation.***

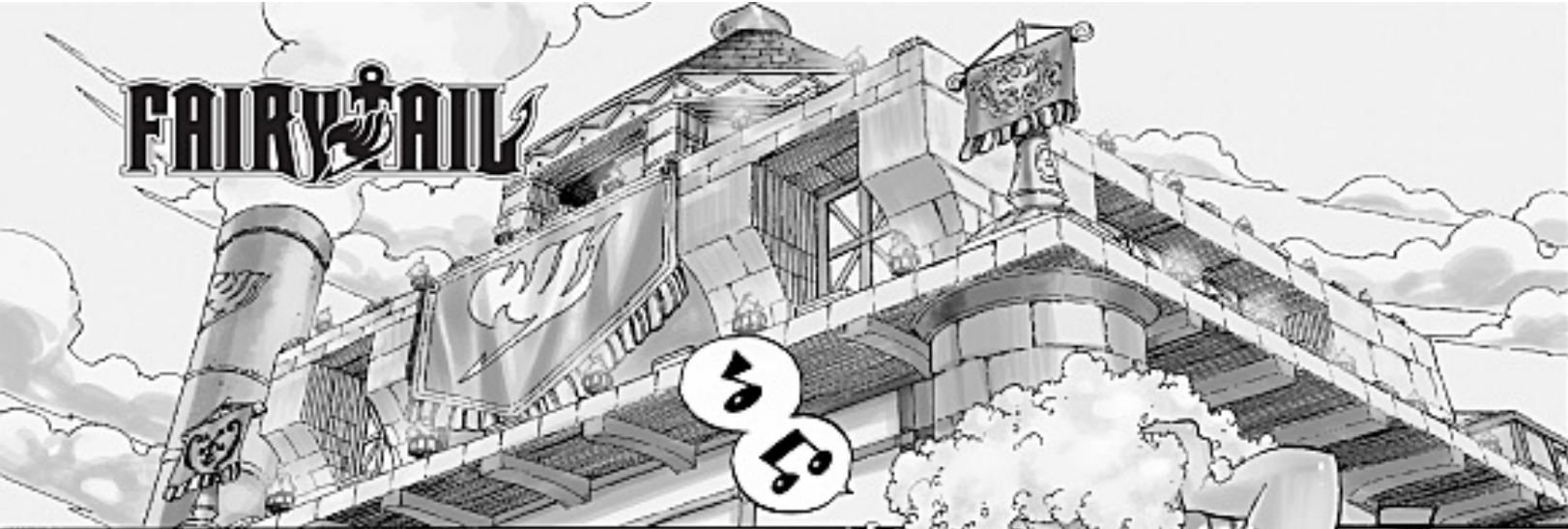


***You will
be the one
to meet
your end.***



***Fairy
Tail will
stop
you.***





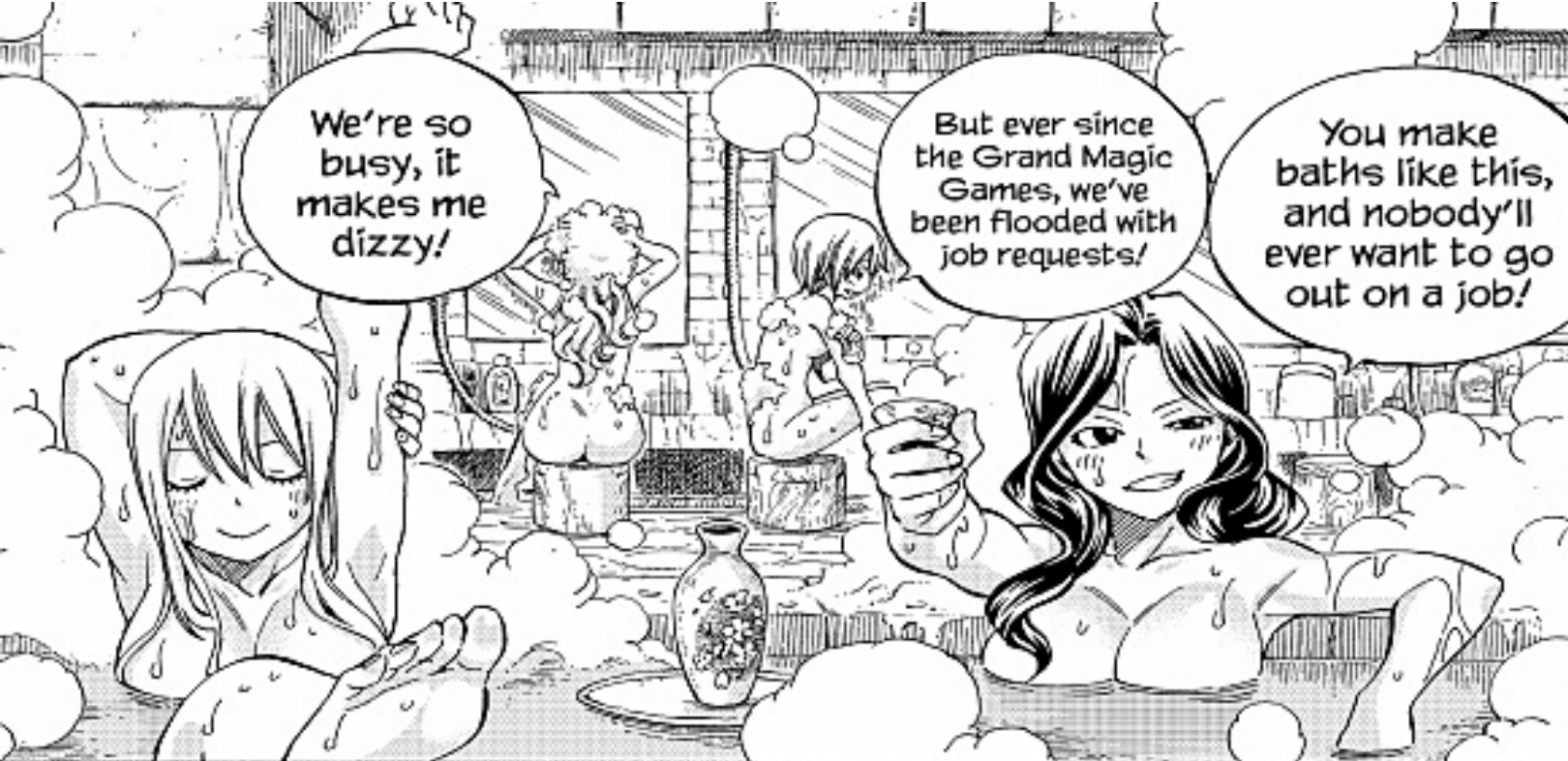


Chapter 341: The Morning of a New Adventure





 FAIRYTAIL





Come to think of it, Natsu and Gray said they were going out on a rare duo-job too.



Why did you bring *them*?

So please save us, Gajeel!!

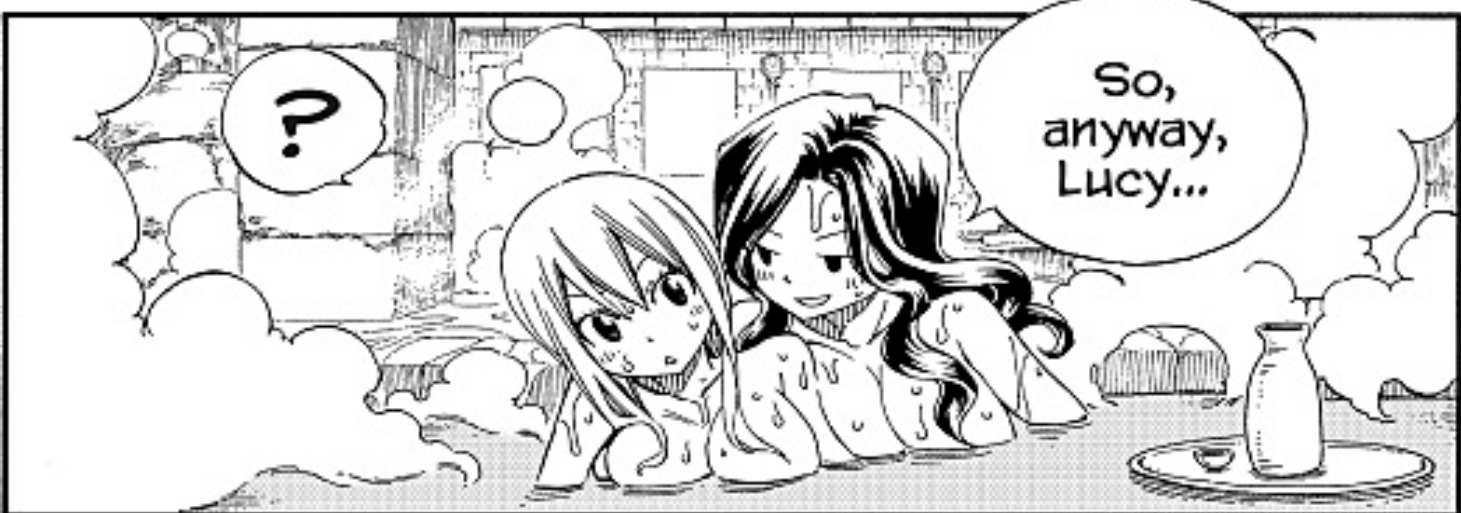
They just tagged along!



Happy's probably with them, too.

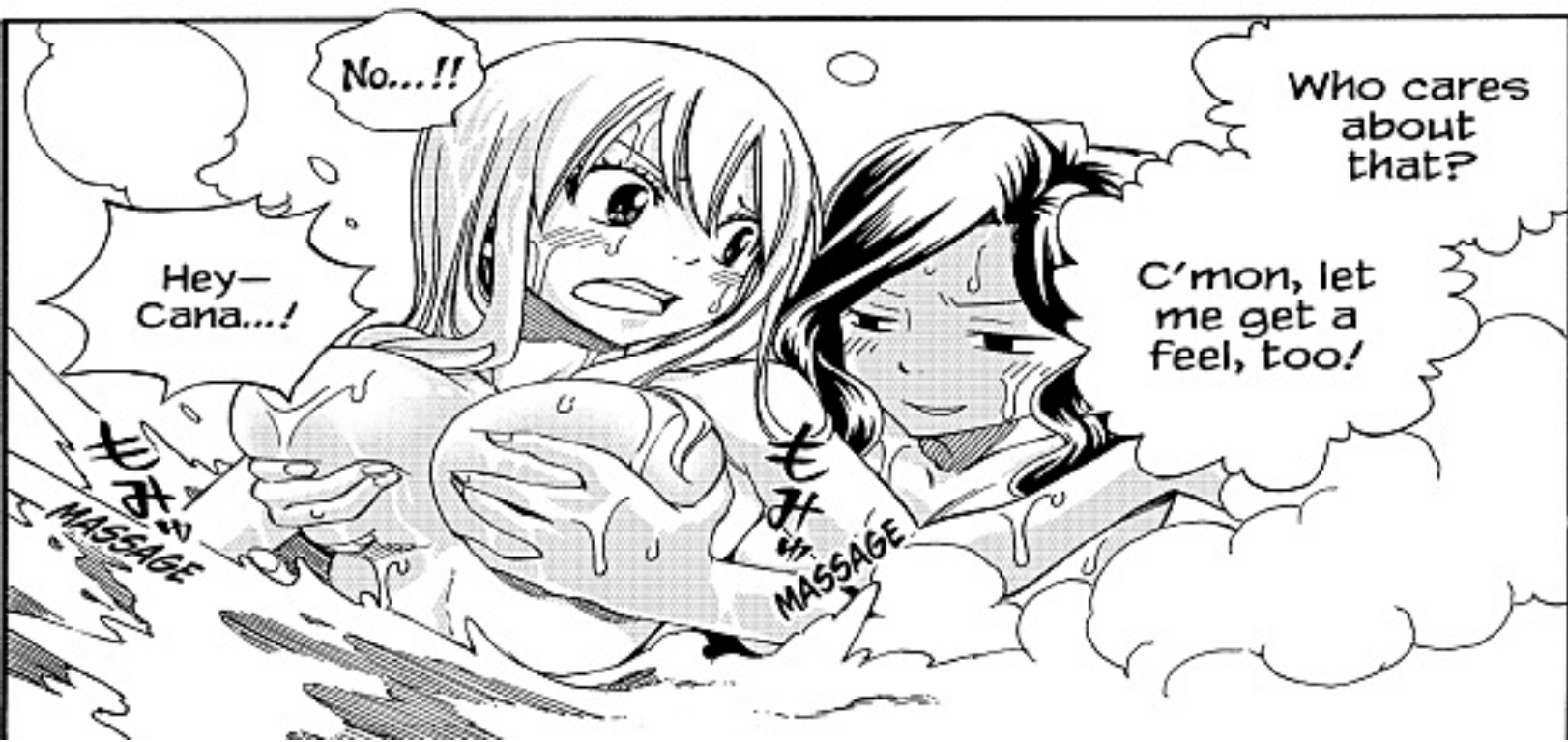
Well, they *have* been more chummy lately. But I wouldn't expect them to go off alone together.

Those two?! That *is* unusual !!

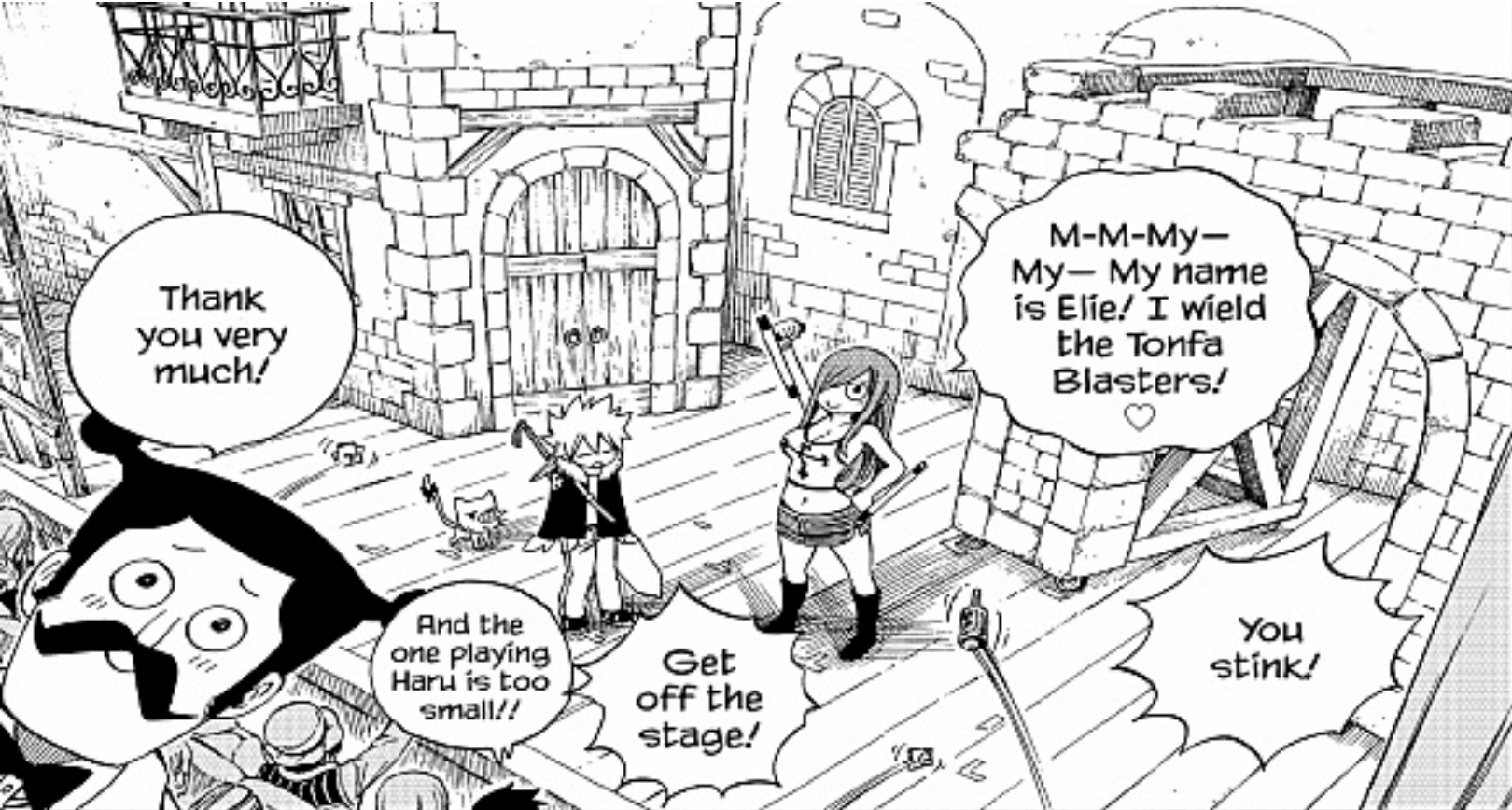


So, anyway, Lucy...

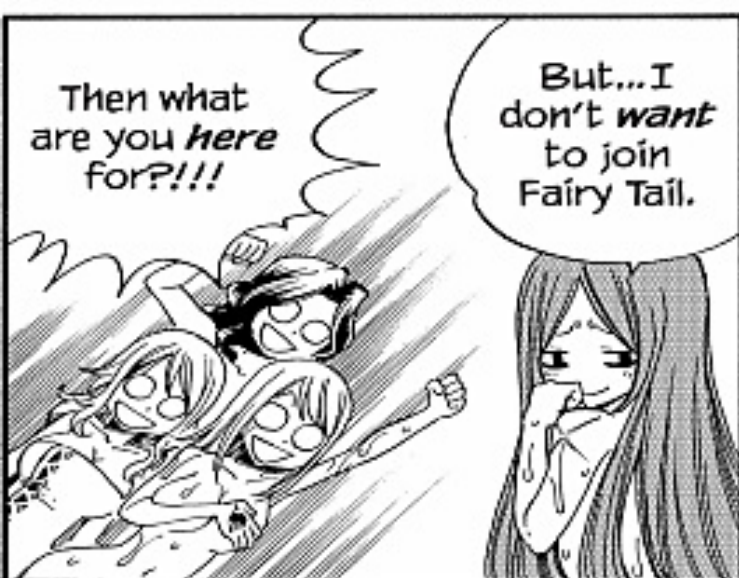
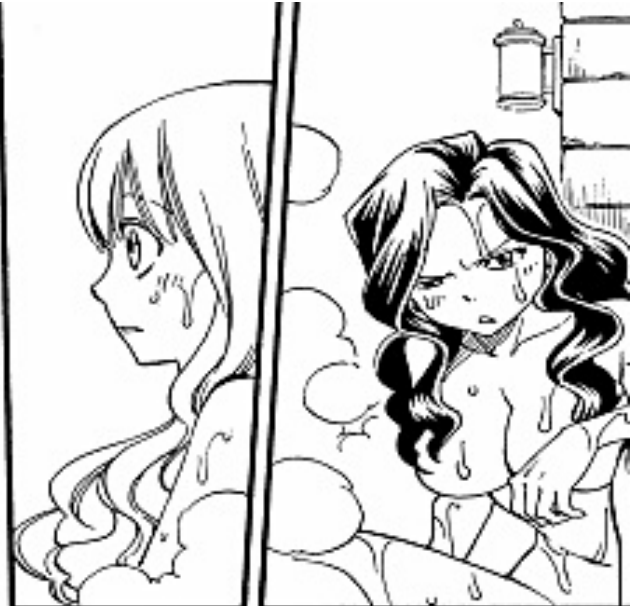
?

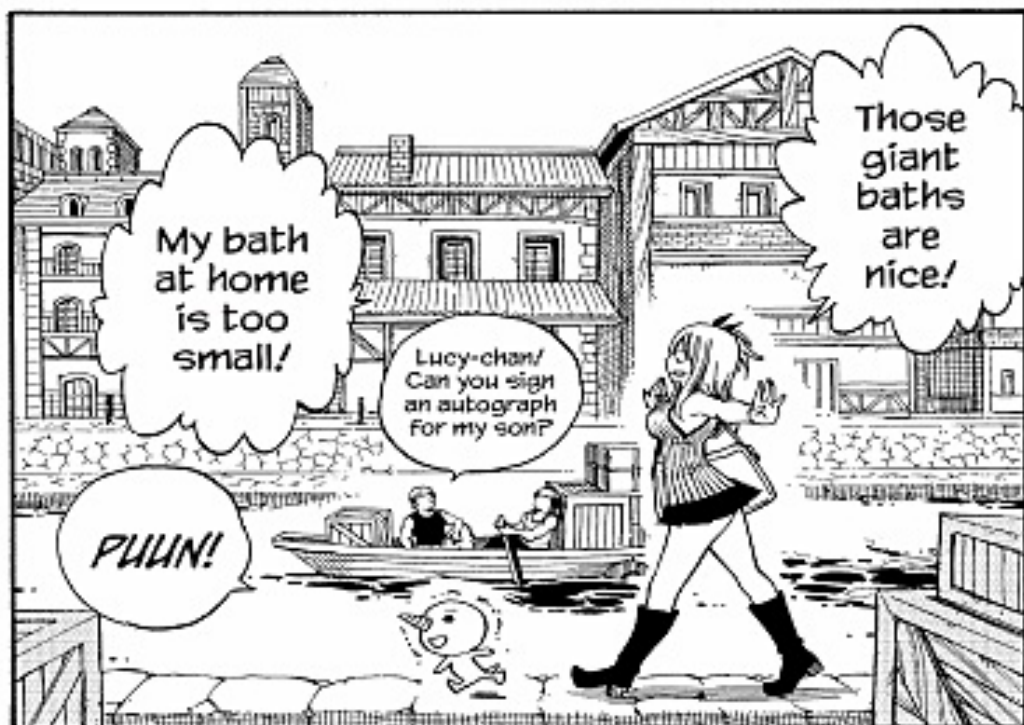












FEELS
JUST
LIKE OLD
TIMES!!!!

We're
imposing
on your
hospitality.

Welcome
home!

BOO

OOM

PULLIN!

We received
our sweets
as reward...

...and it
was a bit
much for
us alone.

This place
is nicer
than I was
expecting.

We're
sorry for
barging in
like this.

Your job
went well,
then?

Wow!
Thanks!!

Therefore,
we came
to share
some.

ほい
THUMP



But I'm wondering if Happy's group is back yet!



Like a dream!

Kind of...
Hrm...



Not that we're worried about them or anything.

I hear the job was close by, so maybe we should go check on them?



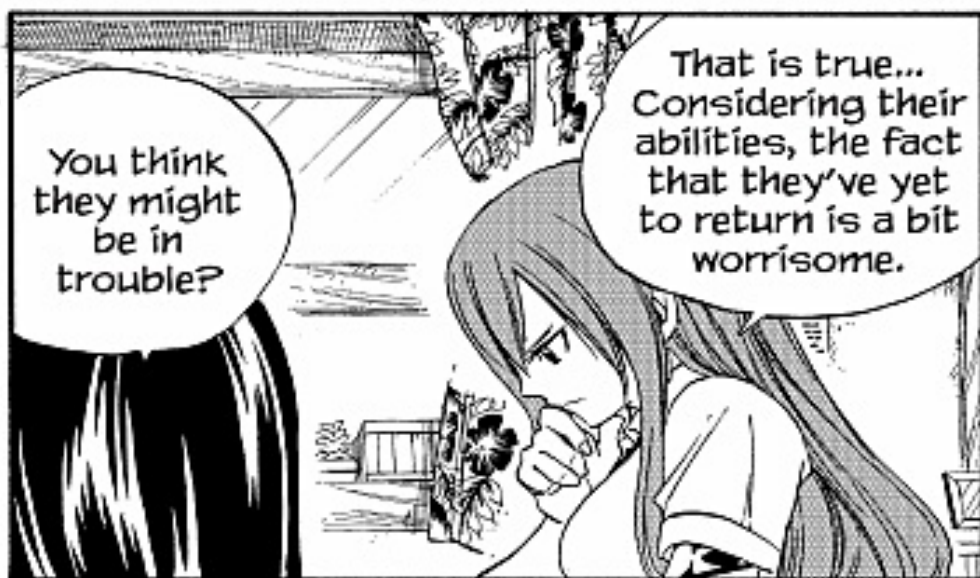
Foolishness!! Three days have already passed!

They said it'd be an easy job, but they're taking an awfully long time.

We even saved some sweets for them!



Hold on! I'll come along, too!



You think they might be in trouble?

That is true... Considering their abilities, the fact that they've yet to return is a bit worrisome.









That's my
line, you
exhibitionist
creep!!!!



And here
I was
worried...

The
usual...

Aww.

That's
'cause
you never
attack fast
enough...

You always go
on the attack
without a single
thought in your
head!!!



All right...
Perhaps you
have taken this
far enough.

CLAP
CLAP



Well, we *do*
sleep and
eat.

That for a
full three
days?

Oh?
What a
cute ar-
gument.







HA HA HA HA HA
あはははははは

As if *I'd* ever agree to go on another job with *you*!!

You aren't kids, you know!

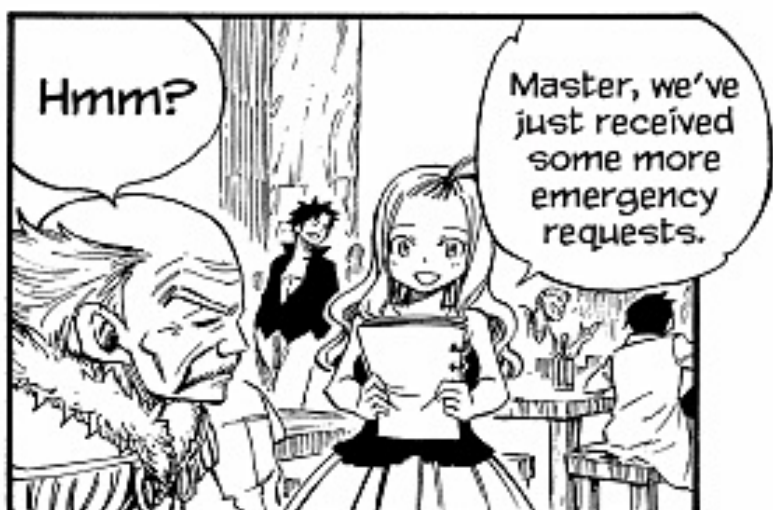
What are we going to do with the two of you?

I'm *never* going out on a job with him again!



Ever since the Grand Magic Games... We've had a lot more requests that ask for certain wizards by name.

Well, our members have become quite popular.



Hmm?

Master, we've just received some more emergency requests.





He is ranked fourth among the wizard saints, and has been dubbed one of the Four Emperors of Ishgal.

The one who put in the request is Warrod Sequen.

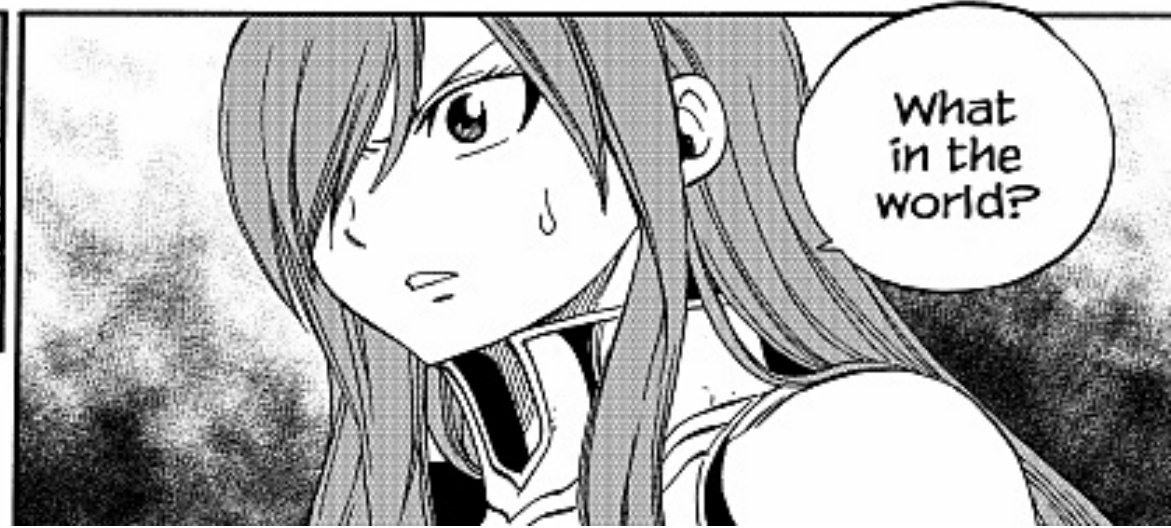
Why would such a powerful wizard want...?

What does that mean?

A wizard saint requesting a job?!!

Whaa
?!!!

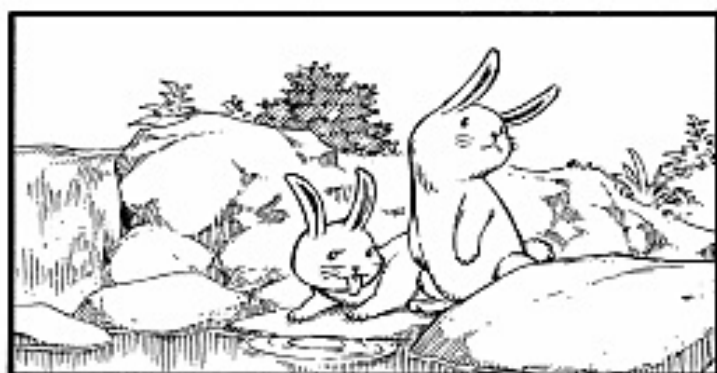
!!!



What in the world?



Chapter 342: Warrod Sequen





Yes, it would be...

This is fun!
Kind of like a picnic!



The breeze is refreshing as well.

The air's so fresh!



The stupid color of your hair is making my eyes hurt!!
Do something about it!!

And put some clothes on!!

Why would I eat anything of yours?!

You ate the meat I reserved for *me*!!

...if it weren't for those two.



This doesn't bode well.

And here we came because we were afraid they wouldn't get along if we left them alone together.

Shape up, both of you!! We are about to be in the presence of someone of very high rank!



Indeed. Our master and Jura of Lamia are two of them.

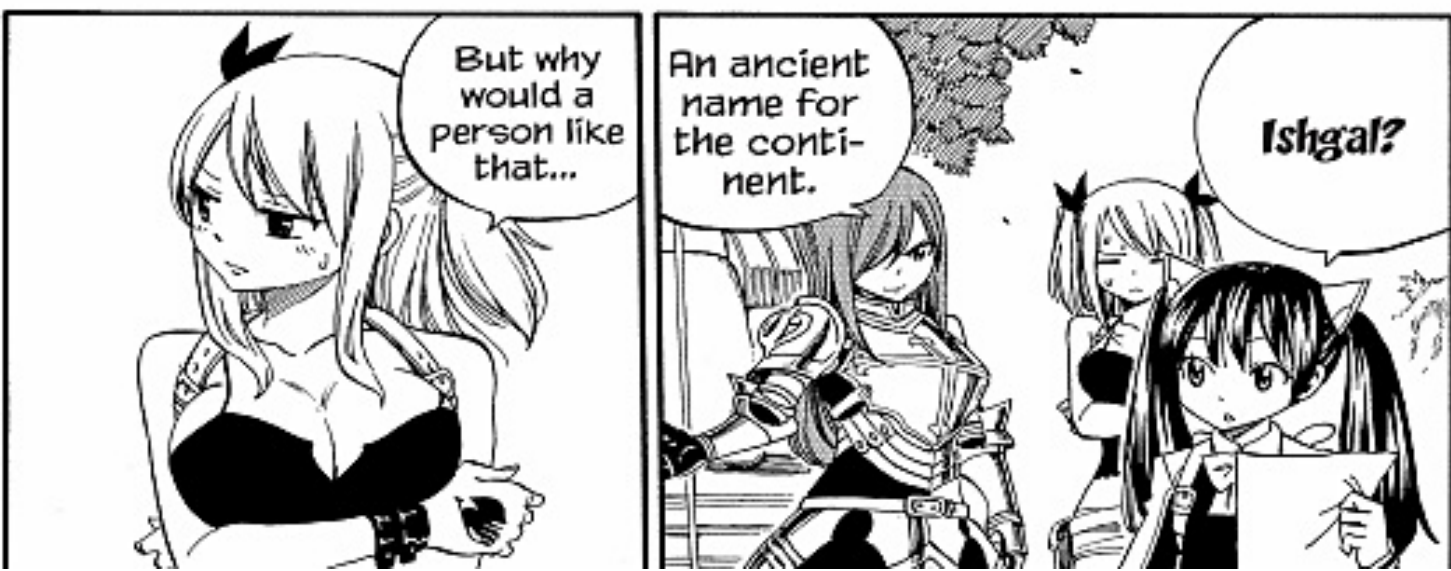
IF I remember right, these ten wizard saints are the ten strongest wizards on the entire continent, according to the Council...
Was that it?



Jose, of Phantom, and Jellal used to hold that title as well.

And among the ten, the four ranked at the very top are incredible wizards called the Four Emperors of Ishgal.

I think I'm feeling nervous already...



But why would a person like that...

An ancient name for the continent.

Ishgal?

I get the impression... that I am the one being insulted.

Go take a bath in Erza's turds!!

You should just let Erza gobble you up!

...pick *those two* by name...?

There is a house that way!

Could this be...

Ah!

Look over there!

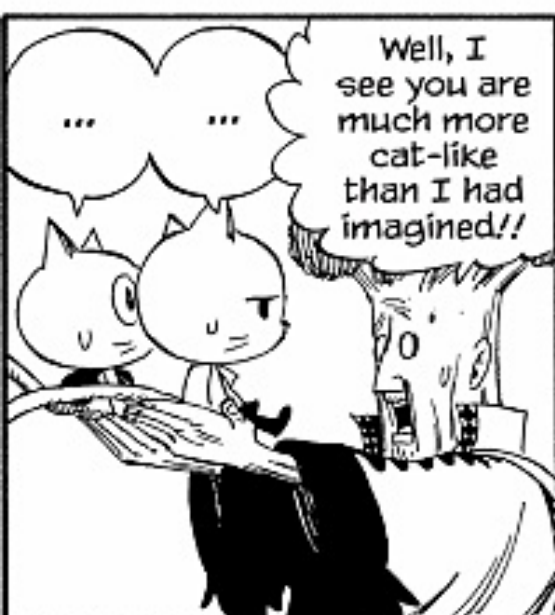
the fourth-ranked wizard saint?

...the home of Warrod Sequen,



Plants prefer peace and quiet.





Forgive my presumption, but you *are* the Wizard Saint Warrod Sequen, are you not?

UMM...

AH HA HA
HA HA!!

I am
Warrod
Sequen.

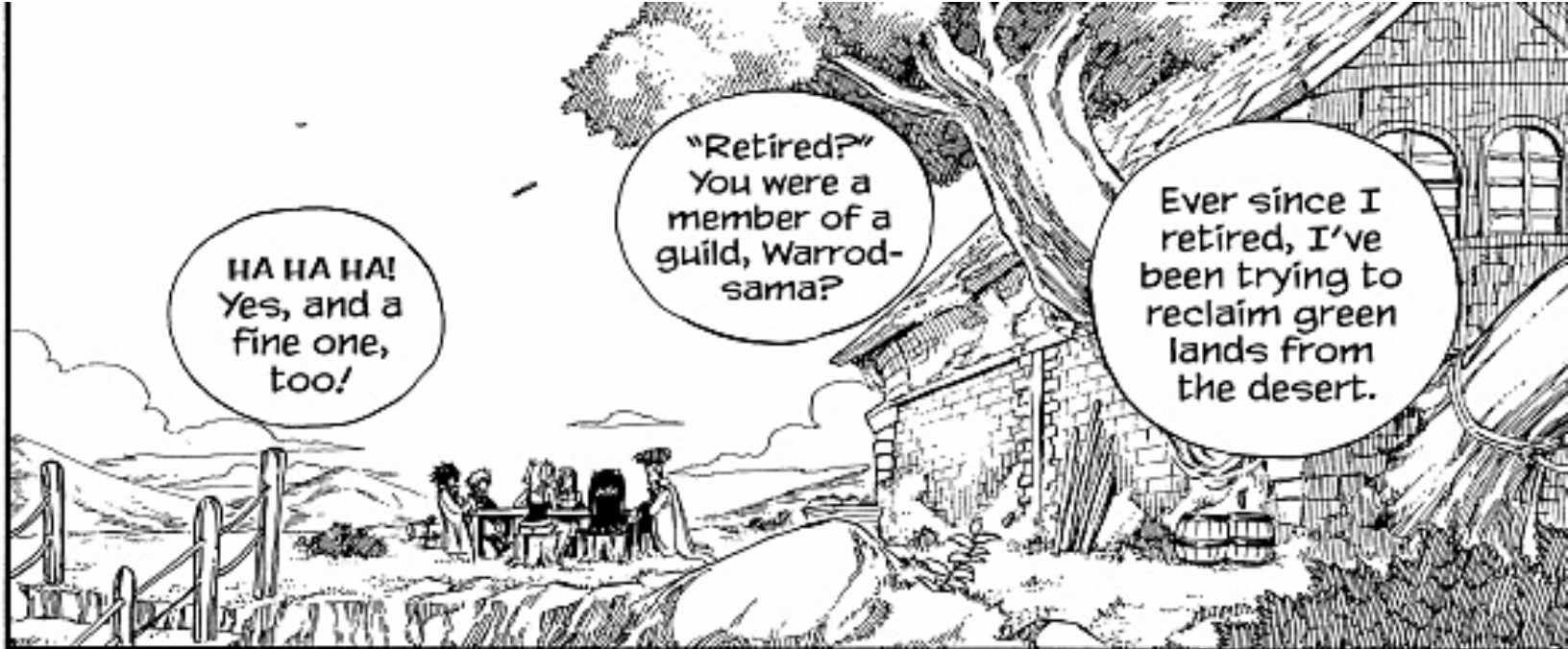
Indeed
I am.

This old guy
is wearing
me out.

...Actually,
that was
the joke.

EHHHH
?!!

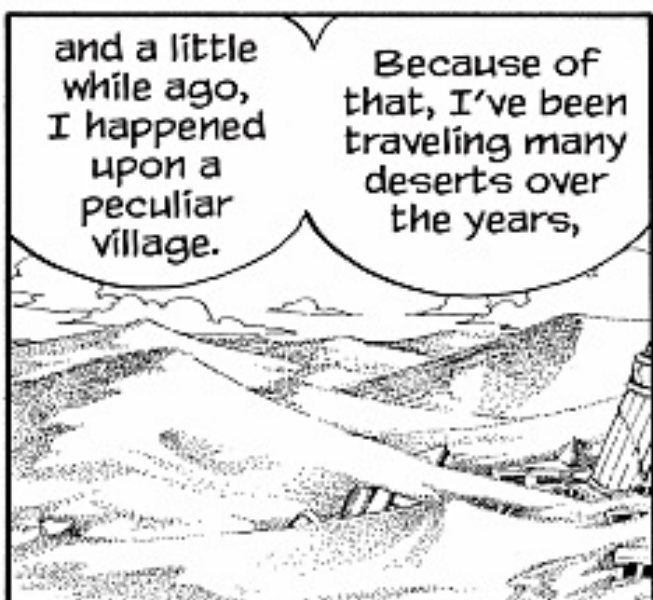
I'm
joking.



HA HA HA!
Yes, and a
fine one,
too!

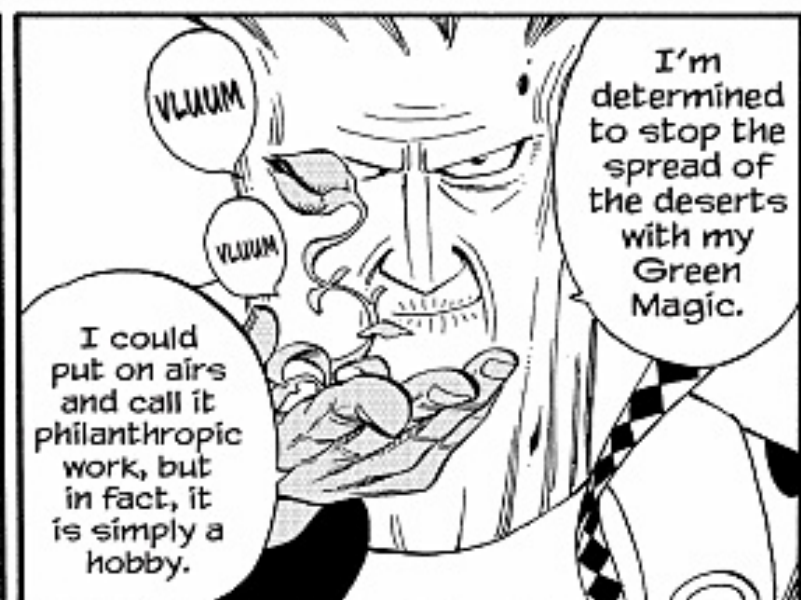
"Retired?"
You were a
member of a
guild, Warrod-
sama?

Ever since I
retired, I've
been trying to
reclaim green
lands from
the desert.



and a little
while ago,
I happened
upon a
peculiar
village.

Because of
that, I've been
traveling many
deserts over
the years,

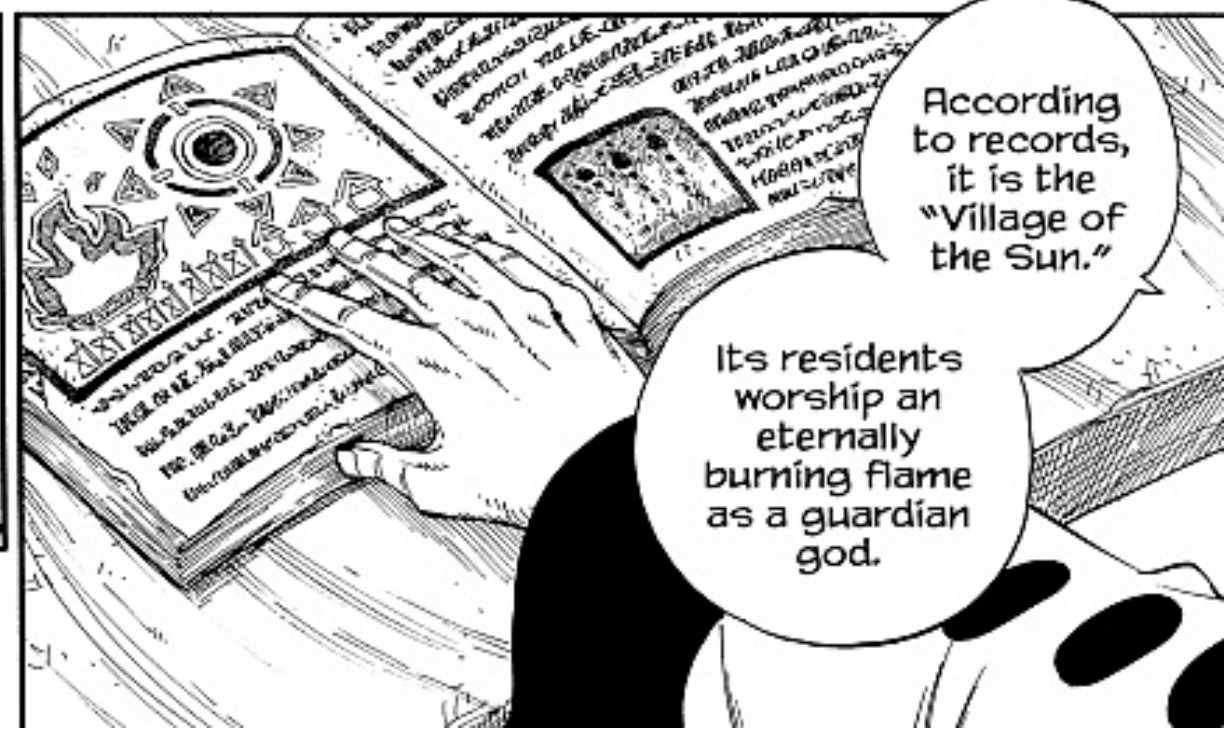


I'm
determined
to stop the
spread of
the deserts
with my
Green
Magic.

I could
put on airs
and call it
philanthropic
work, but
in fact, it
is simply a
hobby.



An
eternally
burning
flame?



According
to records,
it is the
"Village of
the Sun."

Its residents
worship an
eternally
burning flame
as a guardian
god.



I do not
know if the
disaster is
natural or
man-made
...



?!



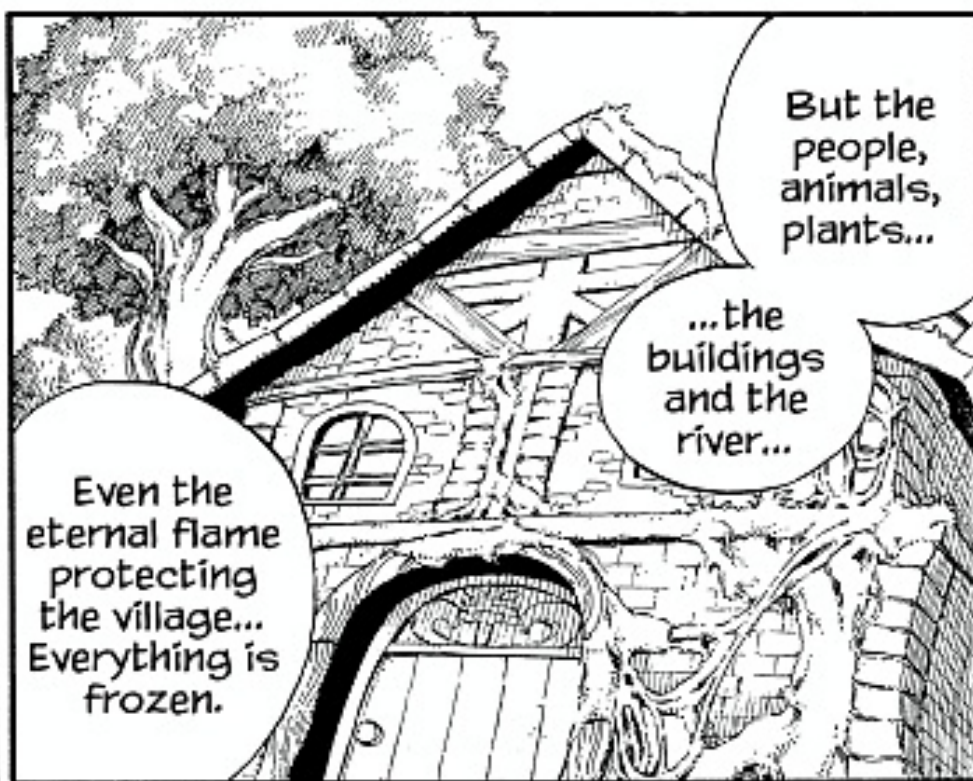
Yes...

However,
the village
is frozen
over.



A flame,
frozen?!

How
could
...?



But the
people,
animals,
plants...

...the
buildings
and the
river...

Even the
eternal flame
protecting
the village...
Everything is
frozen.



What
does that
mean?

Frozen
in ice,
but still
alive...?



I do not
know what
happened in
that village
...

...but the
frozen
people are
still alive.



That is
my job
request.

Living beings
are frozen
there.

I cannot
simply leave
them be. I ask
that you save
that village.



Well...
It was no
ordinary
ice.

If that's it,
then you
don't need
me.

I am sure
your team
will need your
abilities as
well.



That makes
sense. Sure!
It'll be easy
!!!

I'll
just melt
the whole
place with
my fire!!!!



I think
perhaps you
all have a
mistaken
impression.

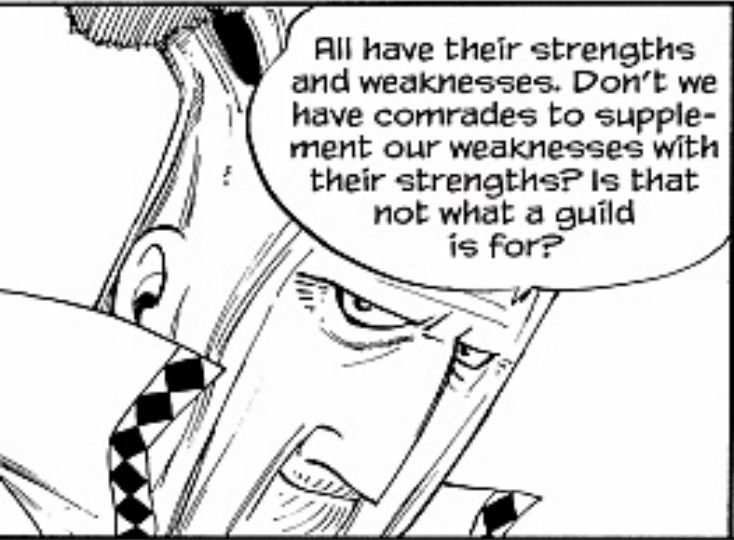


If you'll forgive me,
Warrod-sama, but you are
a very powerful wizard. Why
not solve this case
on your own...?



On the continent of Ishgal alone, I am surpassed by innumerable wizards, and if we leave Ishgal, then I am really quite small in the scheme of things.

We're called the ten wizard saints, but we are not all-powerful. We were assigned the position by the Council without us having a say in the matter.



All have their strengths and weaknesses. Don't we have comrades to supplement our weaknesses with their strengths? Is that not what a guild is for?

Perhaps, but...



In fact, I know very little in the ways of attack magic.

I sincerely doubt I could defeat any young wizards in a battle.



Please
leave it to
us!!

Right!!

Consider
this job
taken!!

Just so.
Wise words,
indeed.

BAM



Just gather
yourselves
here.

Do not
forget your
luggage.

Well, at
least I
can help
transport
you.

WMPH!



It is
perhaps
1,200
miles to
the south.

So where
is this
village?

Quite a
dis-
tance.



YAHOOO!!!!

The tree
moves like
a living
creature...

WOW!

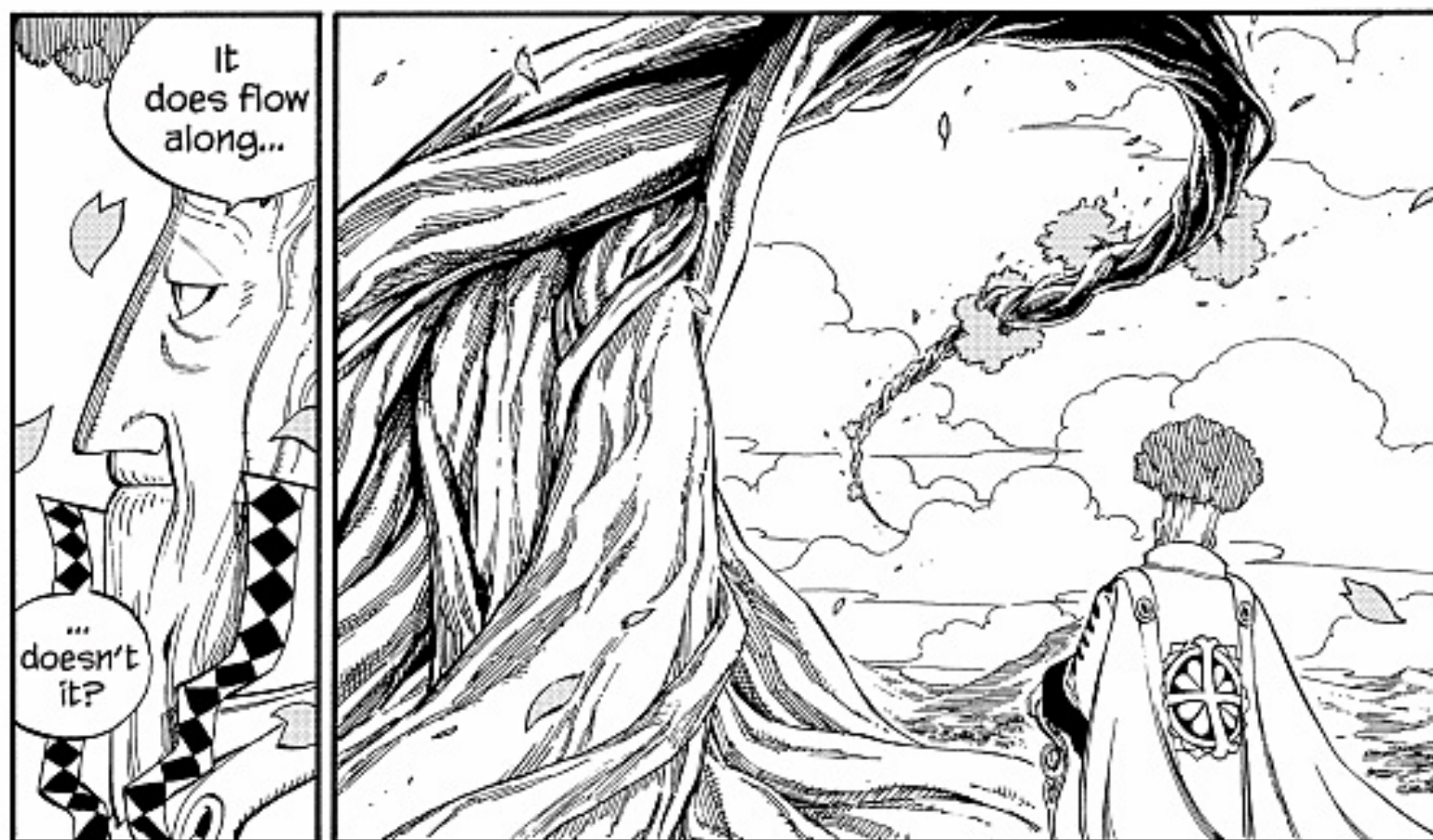
You're
about to
fall off.

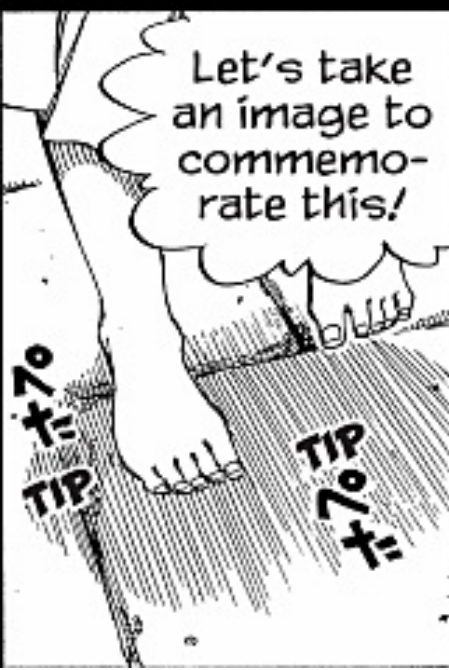
It's like
we're on a
ride!

Yaay!

XI FLY





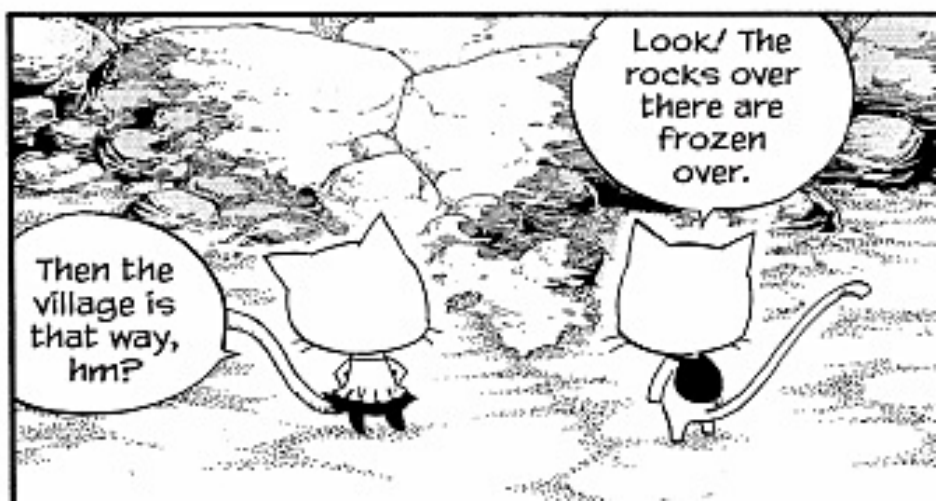


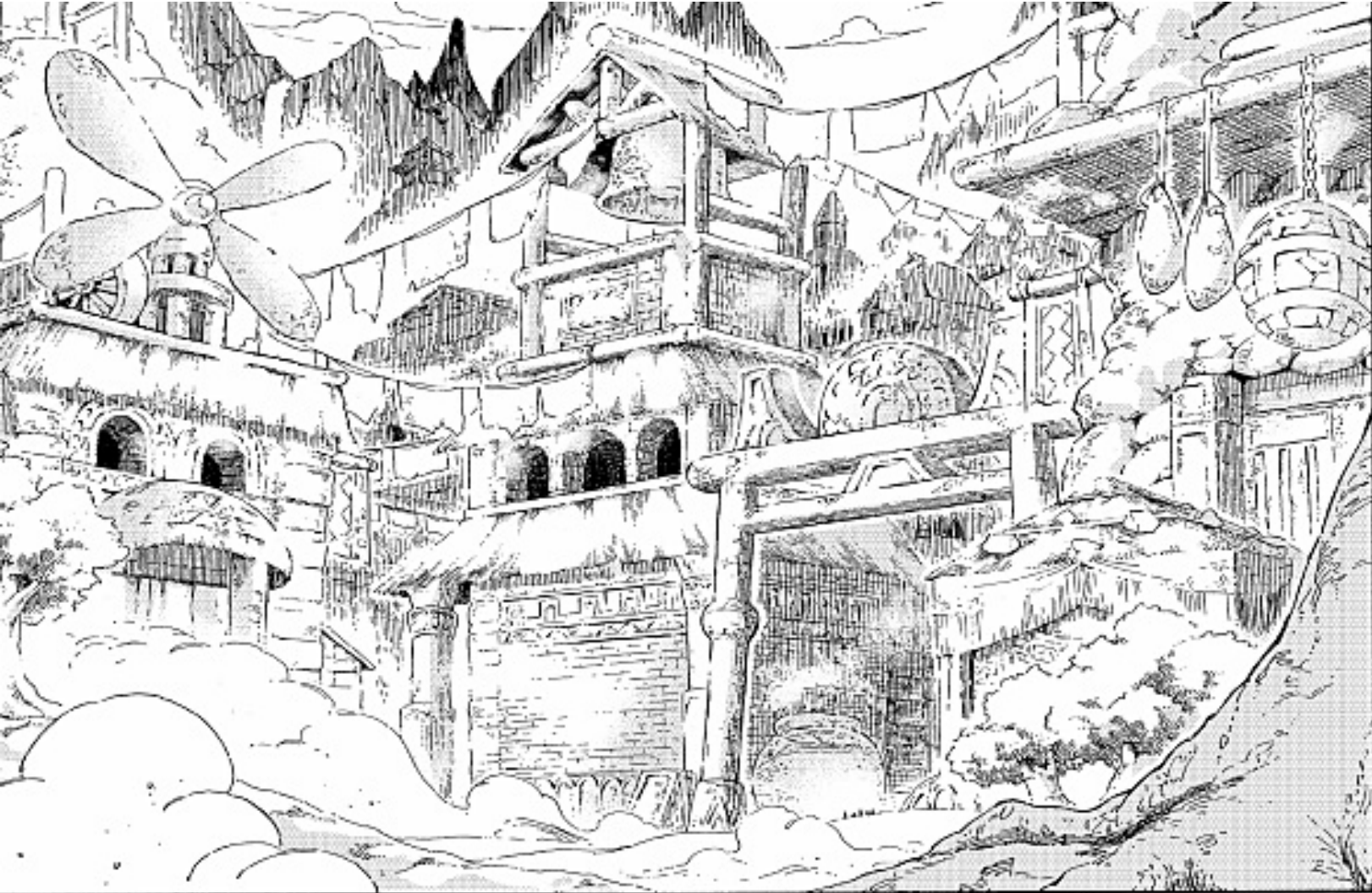


Fairy Tail



343:
**Treasure
Hunters**





According to Warrod-sama, even the people are frozen, but...



It's true. It's all covered in ice. The buildings and everything!





BOOOOM

!!!!



**THEY'RE
HUGE
!!!!**



**HUGE
!!!!**

**HUGE
!!!!**



**HUGE
!!!!**

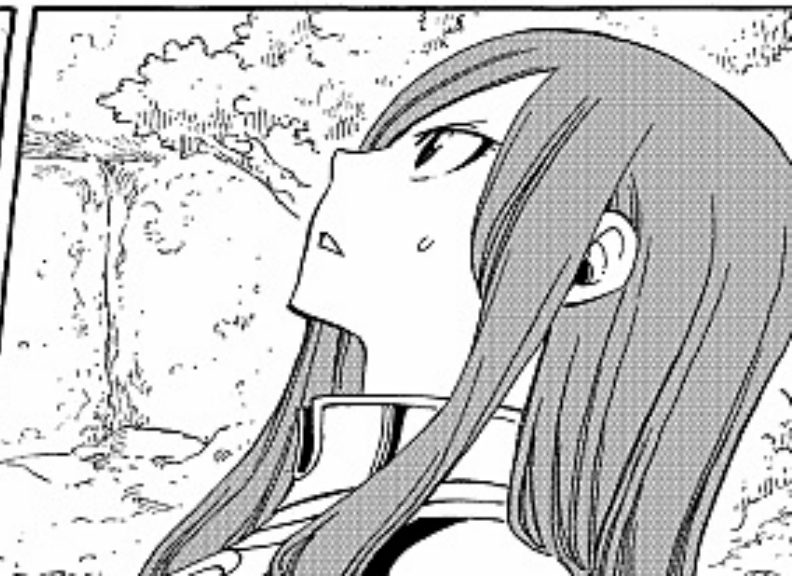
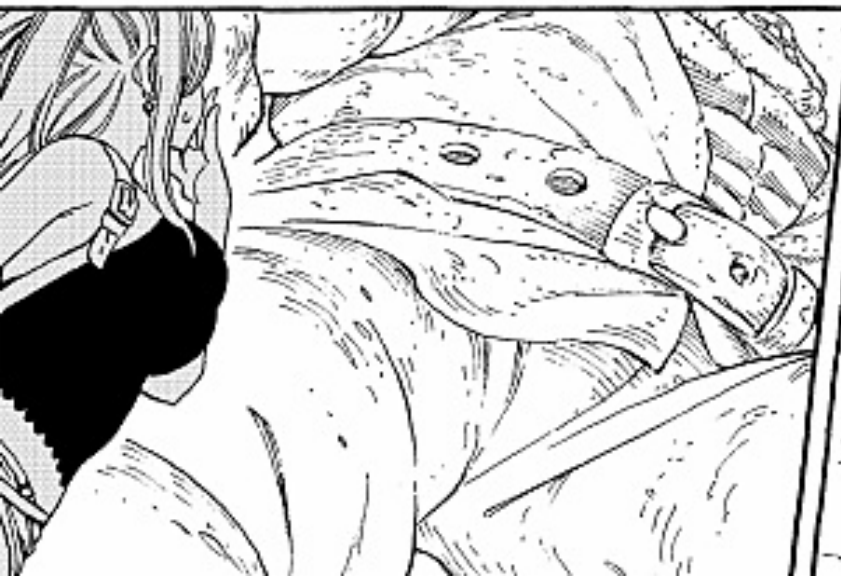


Tiny.



**HUGE
!!!!**











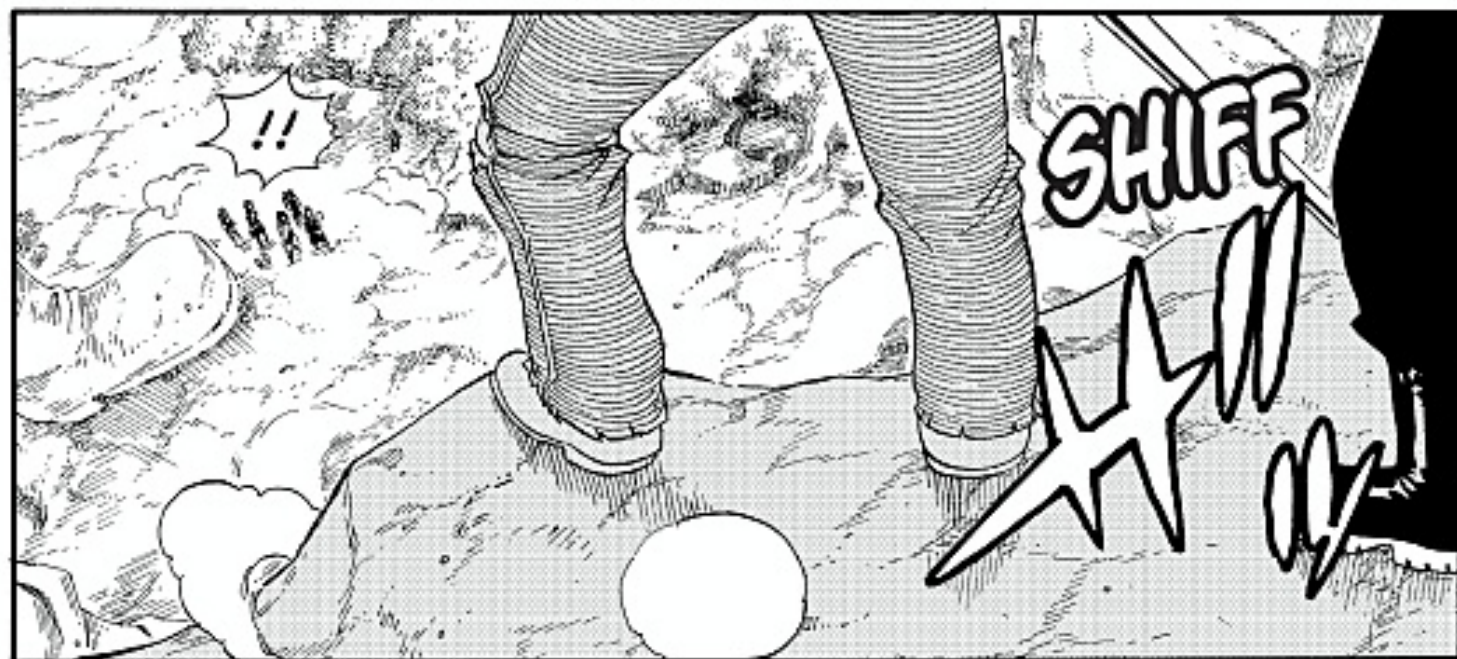
But...it does
remind me of
somebody's
magic...



This won't
be solved
so easily,
huh?

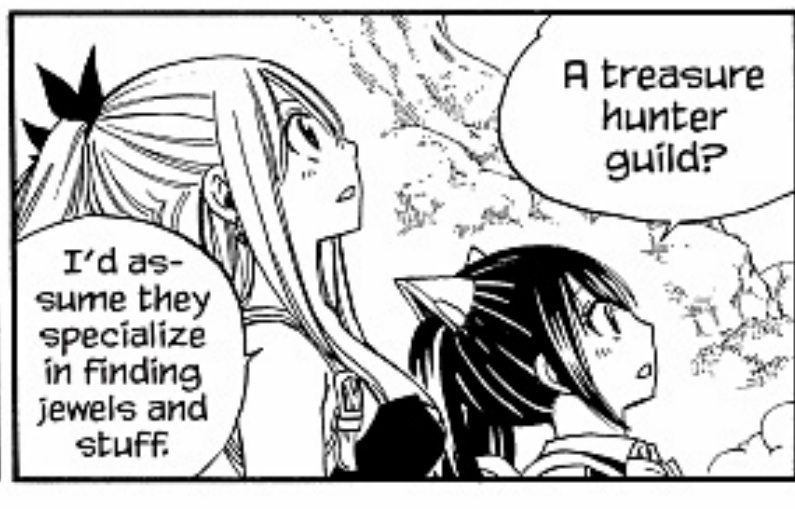
...

So your
magic can-
not melt it
either?

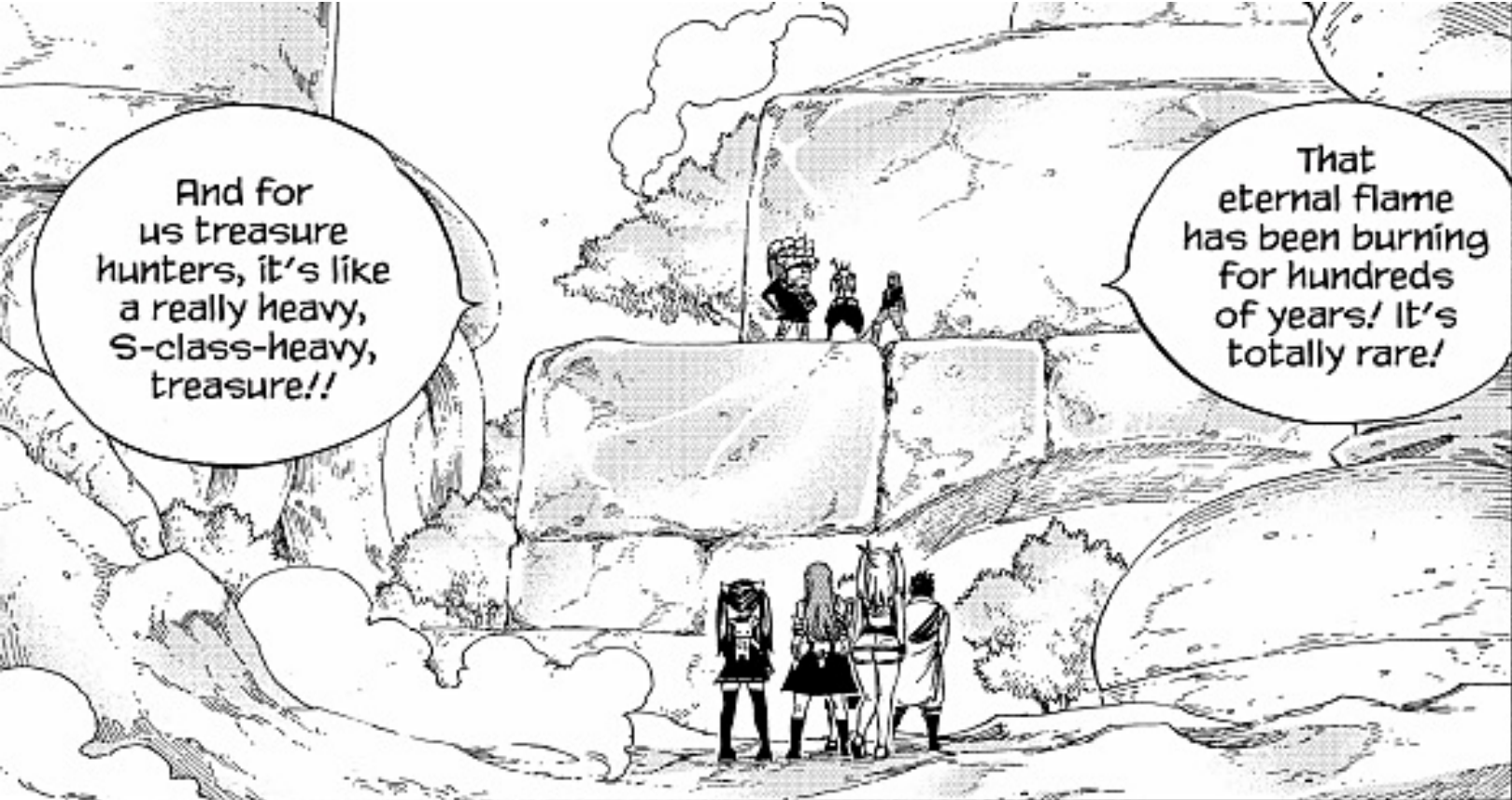


Huh?
Somebody
beat us
here?



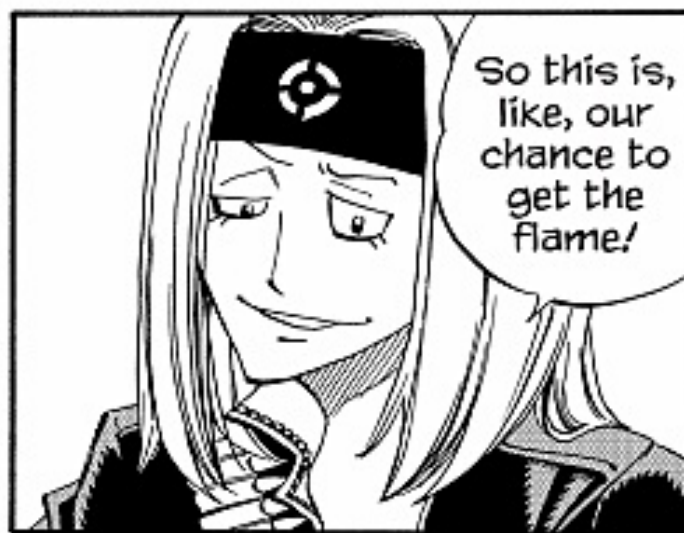






And for us treasure hunters, it's like a really heavy, S-class-heavy, treasure!!

That eternal flame has been burning for hundreds of years! It's totally rare!



So this is, like, our chance to get the flame!



Then, for who knows what reason, the giants went and **DOON** froze all up, right?

But... we ain't been able to even get near it because of those giants guarding the thing!



...

If you just go in and steal it, you'd be no better than common thieves!

But... that flame is the guardian god for the village. I hear it's very important to them.

**DUUN!
DUUN!**

So if somebody
lets their stuff get
taken, it's, like, so
heavily their own
fault!!!!

Treasure hunters
are supposed to
get their hands on
treasure!!!!

I hate to break it to
you, but that flame
is trapped in a kind
of ice that...

DUUN!

Right!!
Let's
go!!!

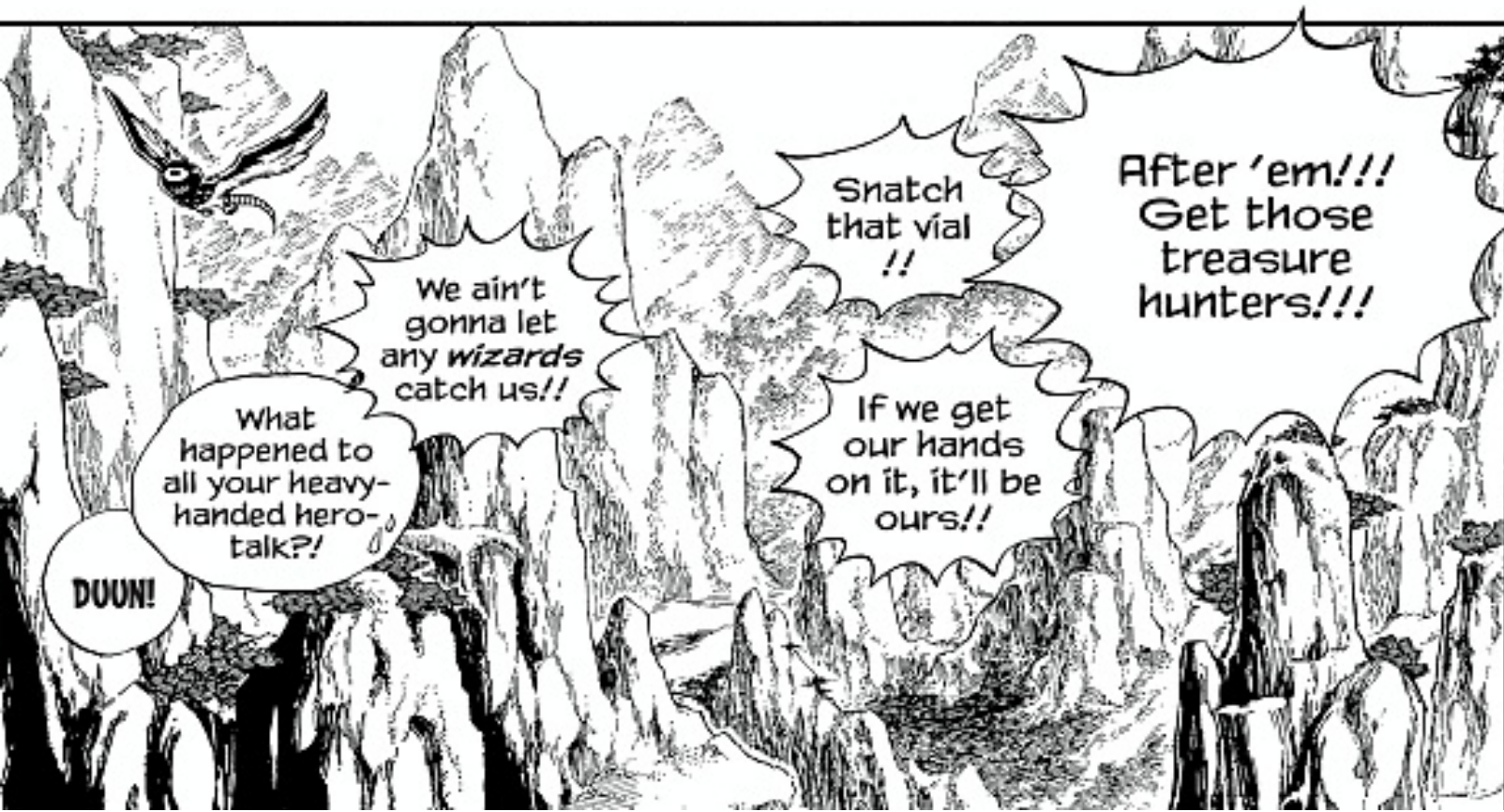
We can't stick
around for this!!
Let's just claim the
treasure before they
can get in our way!!

"Claim"
...?

VOOOOM!!

We got this
heavy secret
potion, "**Moon
Drip,**" and
it's heavy into
melting all
sorts of ice!!

Treasure
hunters are
heavy with the
treasure-getting
skills!!







Oh?

You know that guild?



Fairy Tail...



It does not matter.

I never imagined I could get my revenge so quickly.



I know nothing of the outside world.

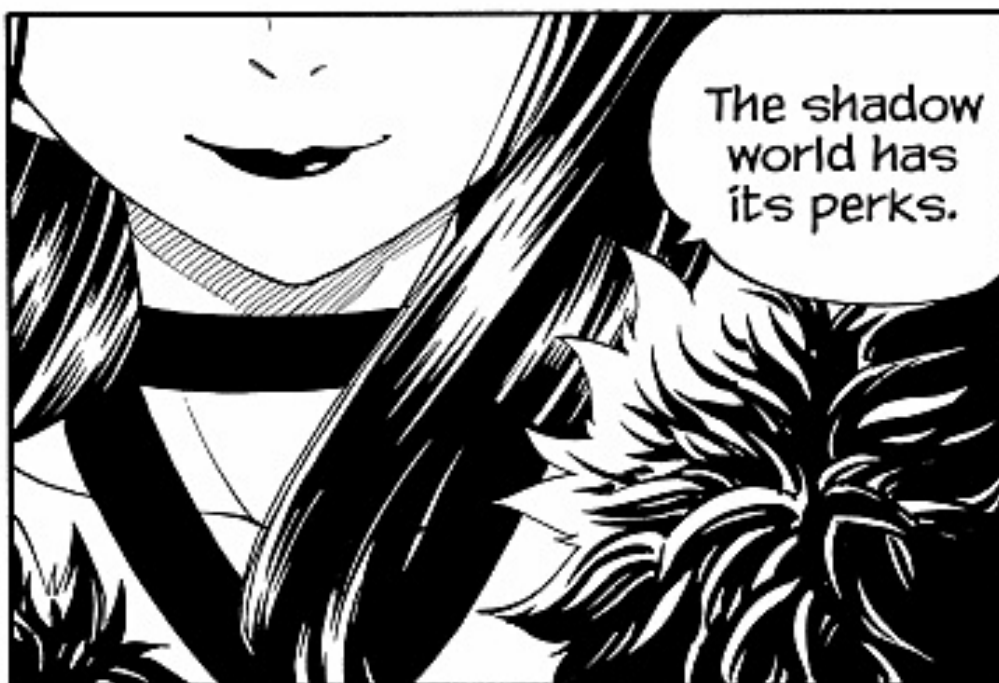


You must be terribly ignorant to live in the world and not know of Fairy Tail.



"New girl"?

I don't care about that. This is a job. Let's go, new girl.



The shadow world has its perks.

A black and white manga-style illustration of a young woman with long, dark hair styled in two large buns. She is wearing a dark, strapless top with a wide, fur-trimmed collar. She has a confident, slightly smug expression. The background shows a rocky, mountainous landscape with some clouds. A speech bubble is in the upper right, and a guild emblem is in the lower right.

You are
to call me,
"Princess."

A stylized emblem featuring a large, central eye with a pupil and iris, surrounded by a jagged, star-like border.

DARK GUILD
SUCCUBUS EYE
MINERVA ORLAND

FAIRY TAIL

Chapter 344: Wizards Vs. Hunters



SABER TOOTH

Name: **Sting Eucliffe** Age: **19 yrs.**

Magic: **Dragon Slayer Magic**

Likes: **Lecter, Natsu-san** Dislikes: **The old guild**

Remarks

A member of the strongest guild, Saber Tooth. He teamed up with Rogue, and since both are dragon slayer wizards, they have become famous as the Twin Dragons. A long time ago, he was raised by the White Dragon, Weisslogia, who taught him dragon slayer magic. His goal was to defeat Natsu, and that feeling has led to his looking up to Natsu. After the Grand Magic Games, he became the leader of the Saber Tooth guild.

BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM

We can
rescue those
giants with
that "drip"
that you
got!!!

Stop
right
there
!!!!

Besides, it's
DUUN scary
to bring those
giants back to
life!!!

We had to go to
this island that
was heavy with all
these demons, and
to look so heavily
hard!!!

Don't even joke
about that!! You
have no idea how
hard it was to
get our hands on
Moon Drip!!

They'll be
fine...I
hope.

Why
are you
frozen?!

I hope
she's not
breaking
any of the
giants!

She stayed in
the village to
look for more
clues there.

Huh?
Come to think
of it, where's
Erza?



We will take
out anybody
who gets in
our way!

Treasure
hunting is
dangerous
business!
DUUN!

If we let some
stupid wizards
treat us like crap,
then it's heavily
all over for
us!!

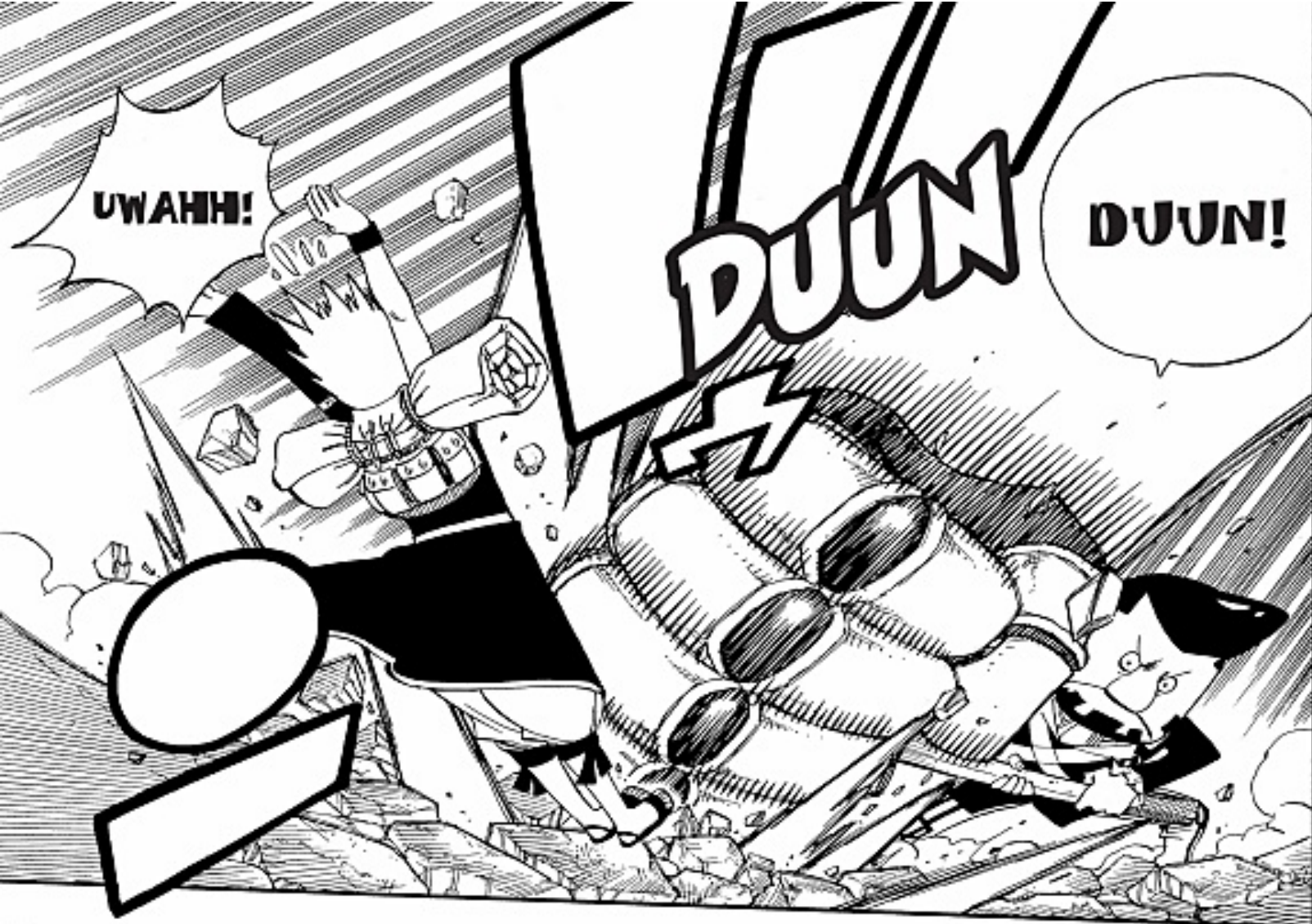


If you wanna
fight, then
we're game!
We'll crush
you!

We're
all in a
dangerous
business!



I'm all
fired
up!!!!





*Fire Dragon's Iron Fist



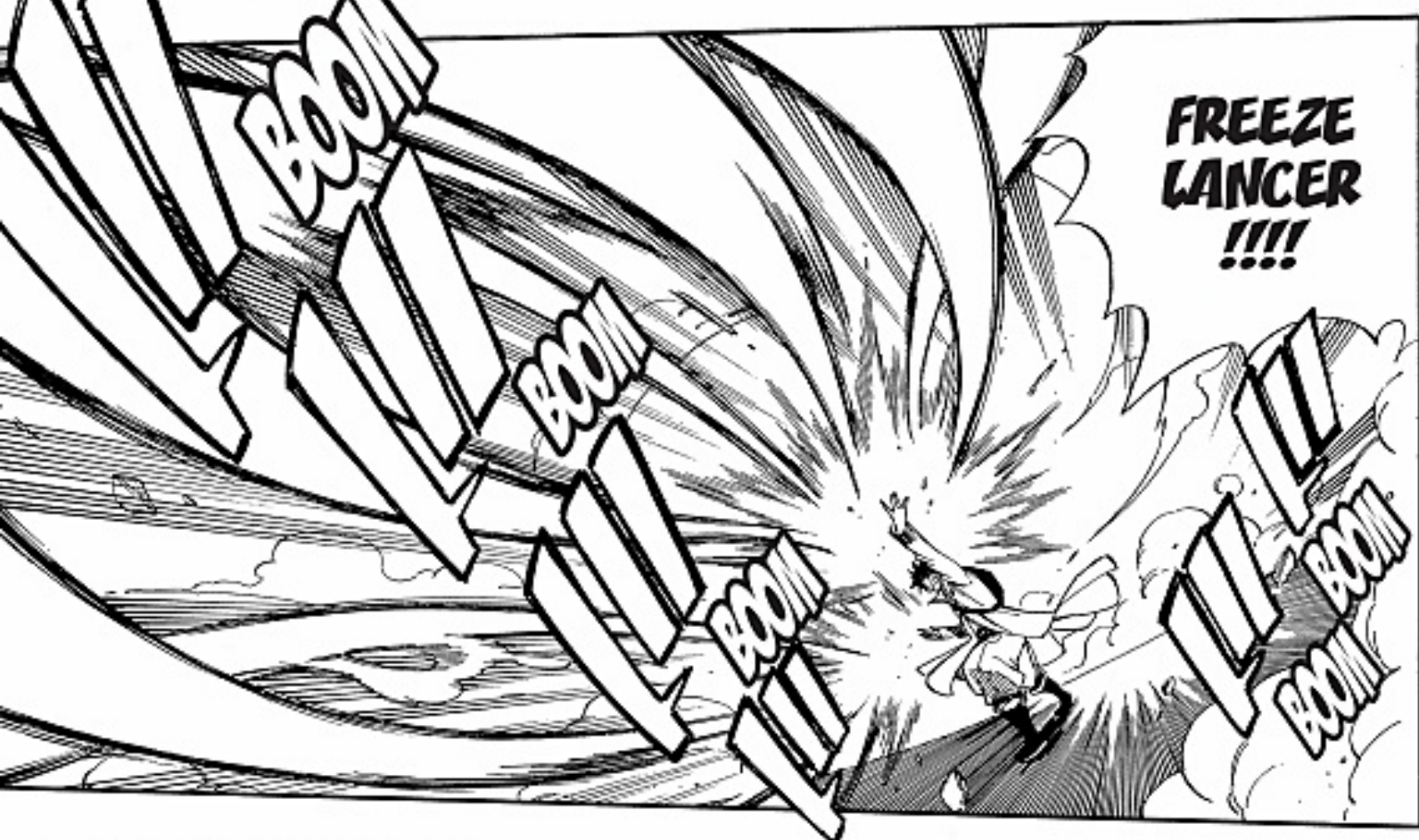


SLAP
HI
E
IL

Ice
Make...



Natsu-
san!!



**FREEZE
LANCER
!!!!**

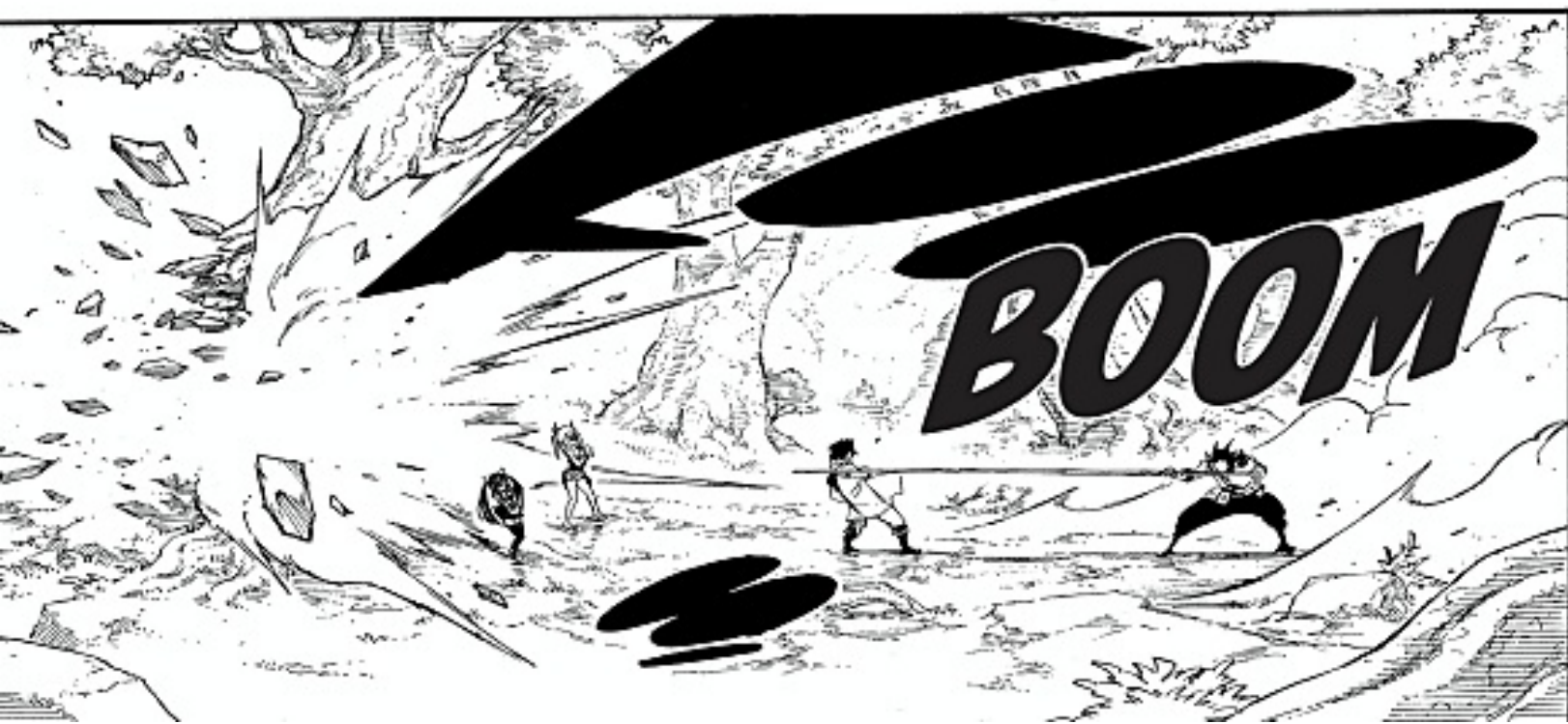


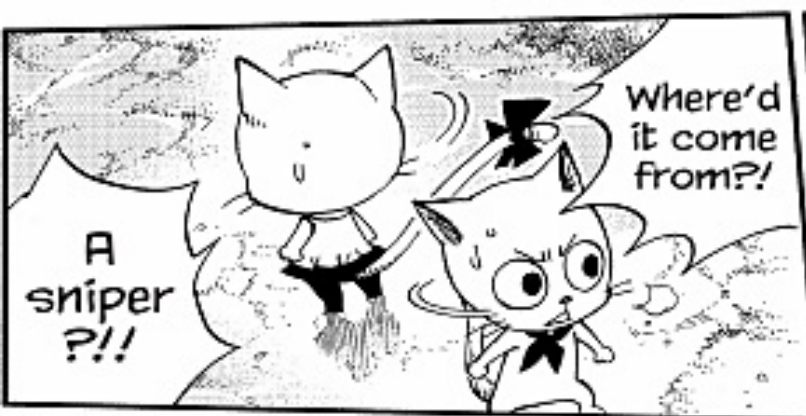
I'm
gonna
cut you
heavy!!!!



**SYLPH
LABYRINTH
SWORD HIROSHI**









**SYLPH
LABYRINTH
SNIPER DRAKE**

My *Type
74** is out
for your
blood!

*The Type 74 is the main tank of the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force.

I'm on
it!!

CHANK

Lucy-san,
it's coming
from up
there!

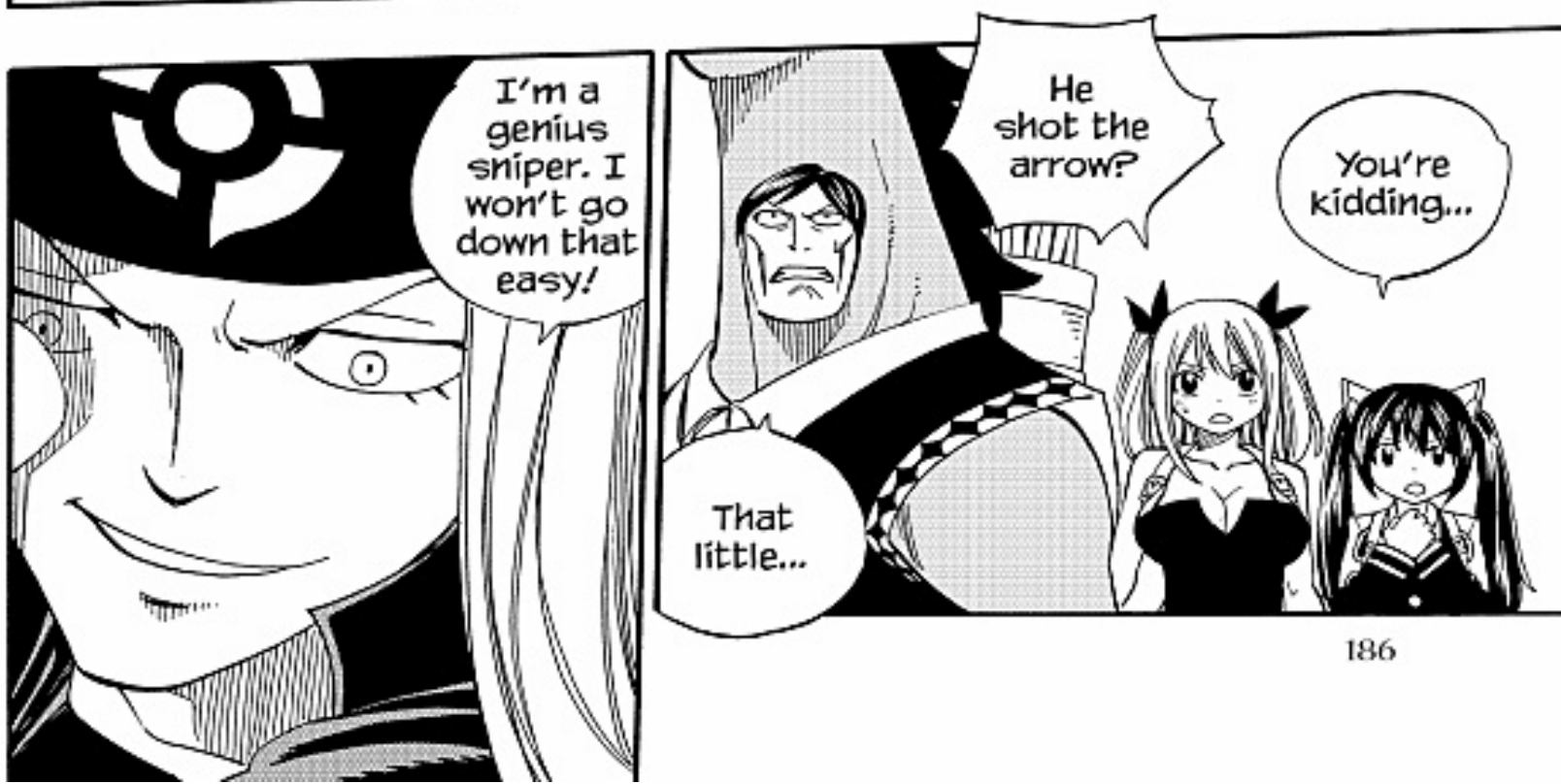
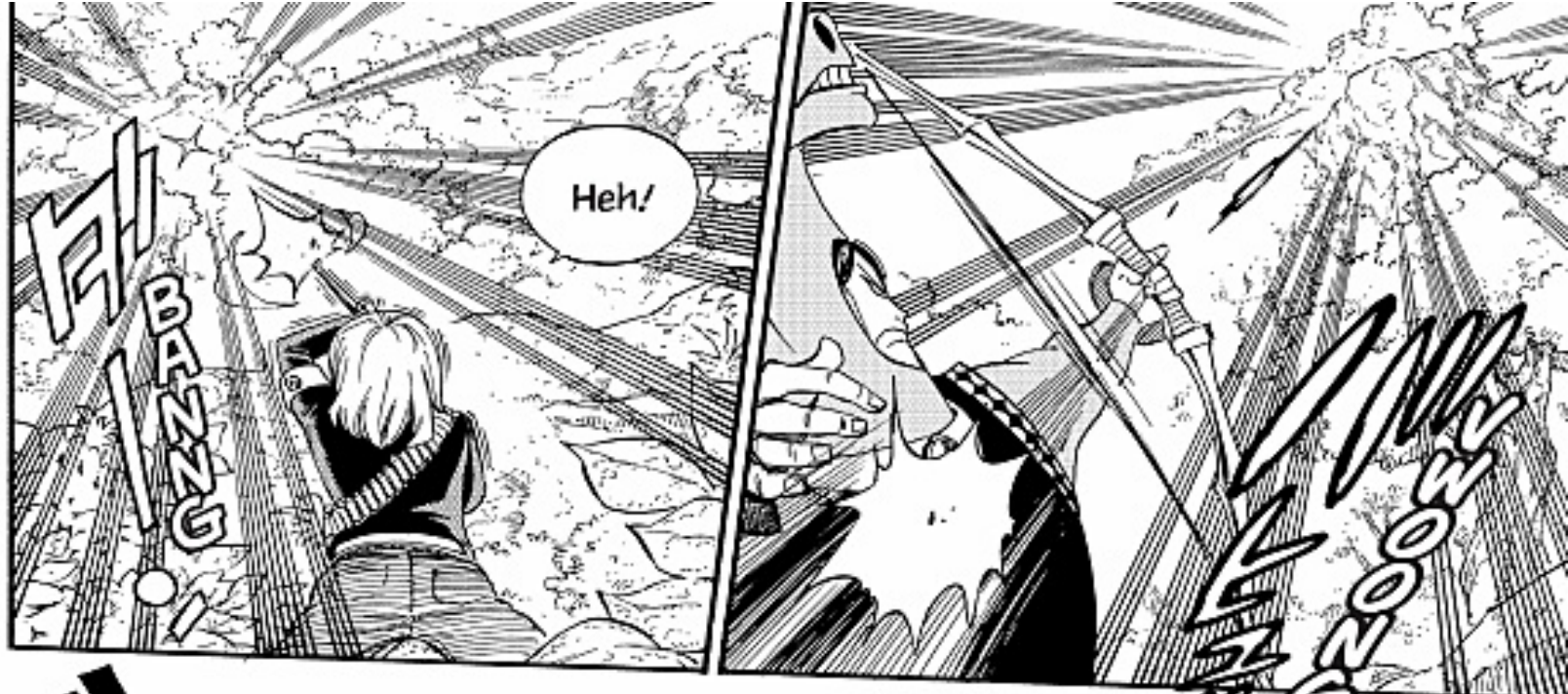
I smell
gunpowder!

I am
your spirit
for sniping!!
Moshi-
moshi!!

BOMM

Open,
Gate of the Man-
Horse
Palace
!!!

**SAGIT-
TARIUS
!!!!**



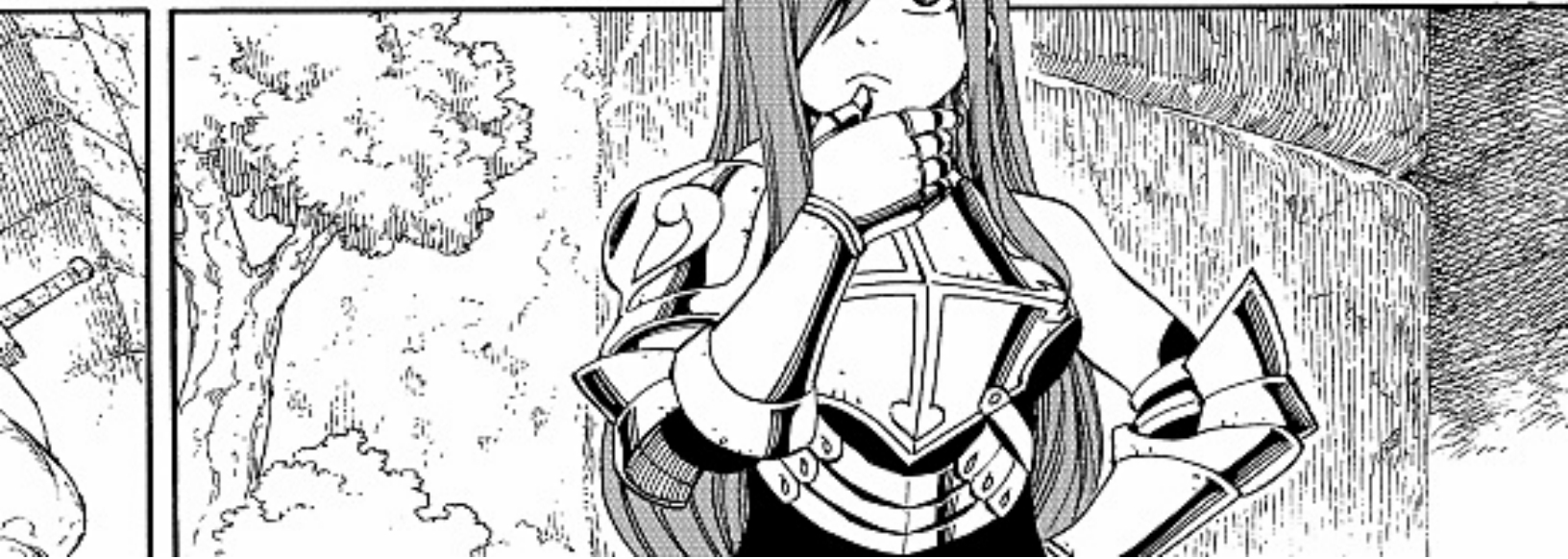
I'm a
genius
sniper. I
won't go
down that
easy!

He
shot the
arrow?

You're
kidding...

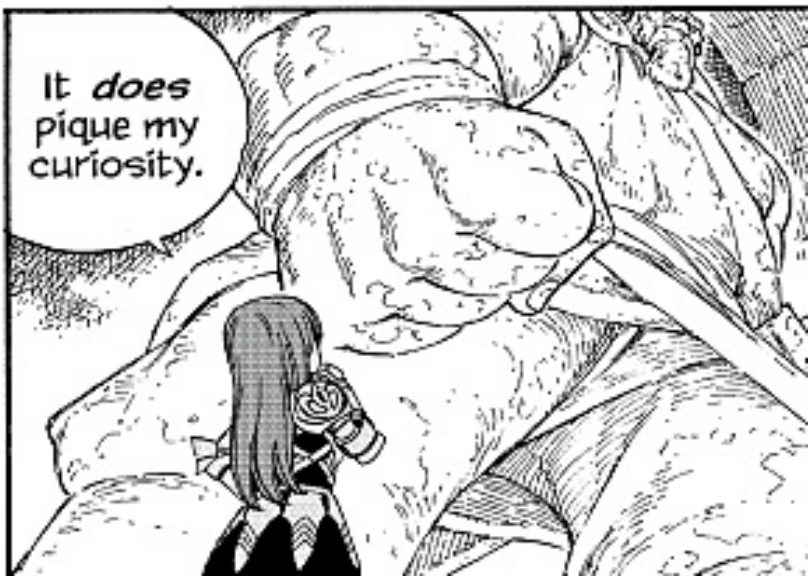
That
little...







They all face
the same
direction...
All bearing
weapons.



It *does*
pique my
curiosity.





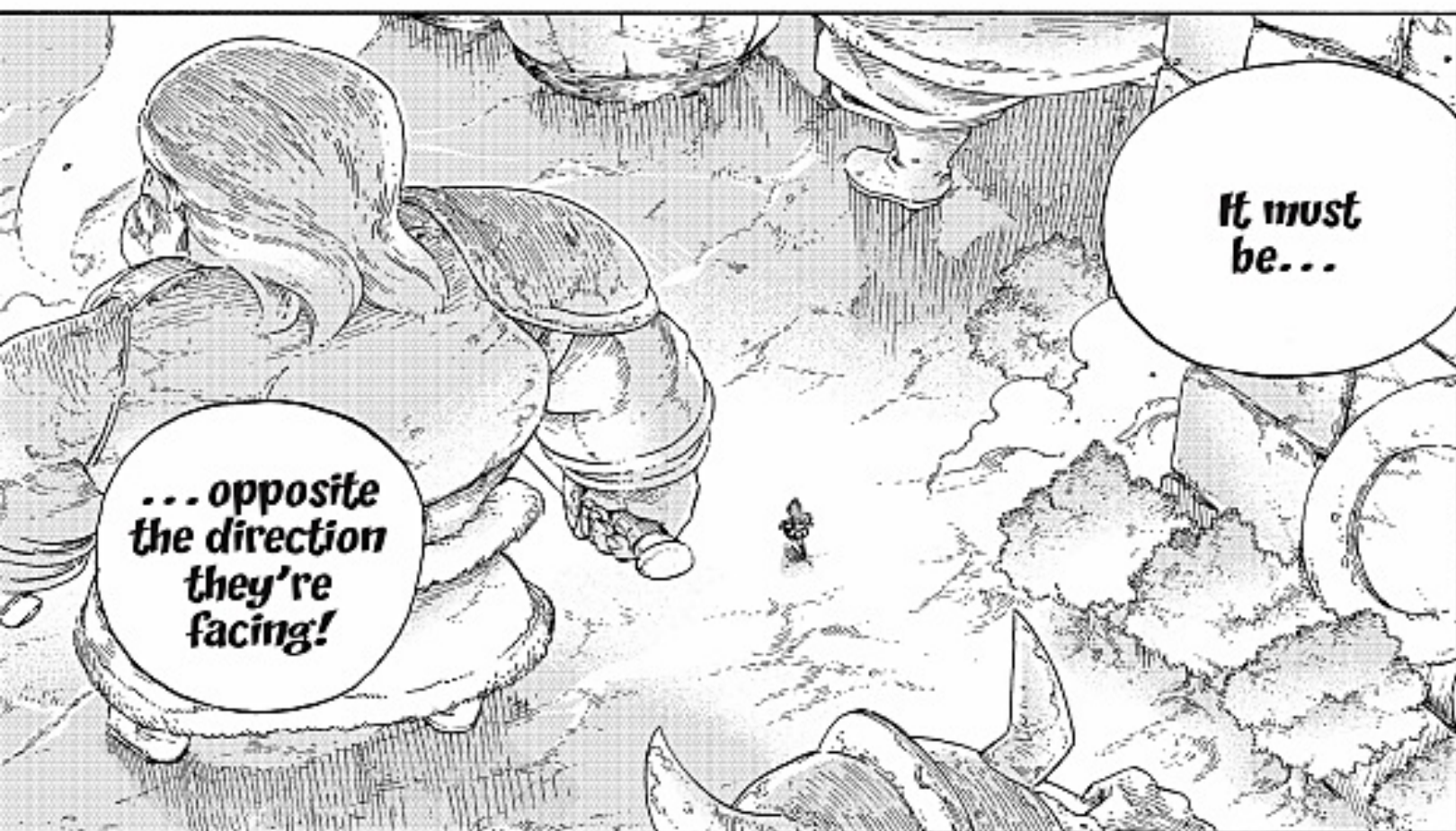
In other words...

If they worshipped the eternal flame as a guardian deity...

...then they must have been protecting it from some outside enemy.

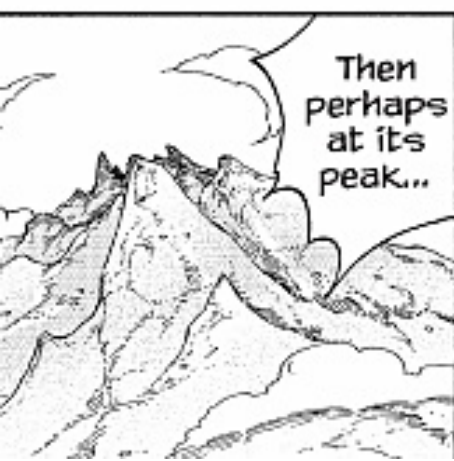
TWIRL

"Even the eternal flame protecting the village... Everything is frozen."

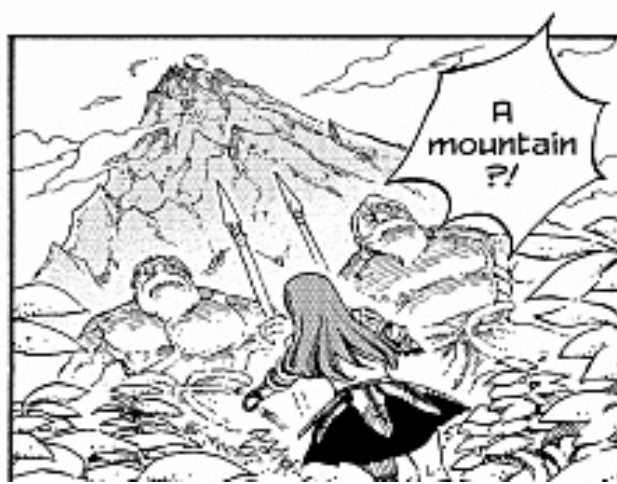


... opposite the direction they're facing!

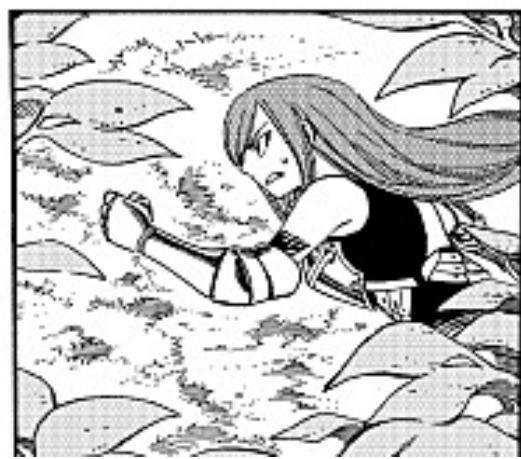
It must be...



Then perhaps at its peak...



A mountain?!





...then it
could return
the village to
normal, but...

I thought if
I could find
the eternal
flame...

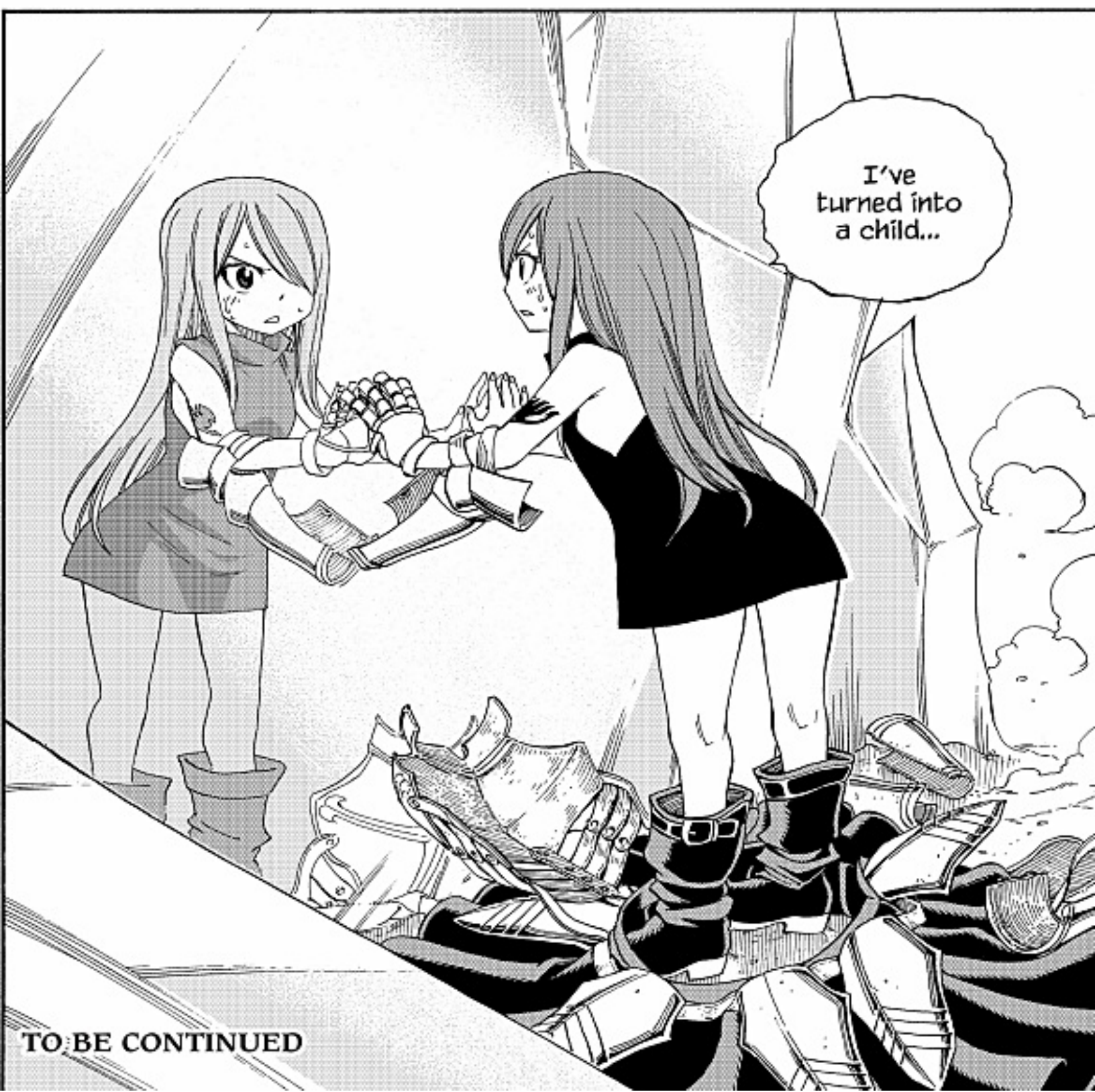
I was not
thinking this
through.

However, even if
I could find the
eternal flame, it
would itself be
frozen.

And the
treasure of
a village is
not so easily
found, in any
c—

!

Wh-What is
this...?!



TO BE CONTINUED

あとがき

Afterword

The Grand Magic Games arc is over! And it was long! So long! I wonder how many characters made an appearance? I counted up to eighty, but afterwards, I just stopped counting. I'd like to explain it a little if you don't mind.

When we were planning chapter 337, "The Golden Grasslands," there was a disagreement. It was between "hard to understand" and "the feeling you get when something is hard to understand." In other words, it isn't an easy chapter to figure out. Normally a rule for shonen manga is that it should be easy to understand. And I'm always keeping that rule in mind when I make my stories. For just about every chapter, I'm always trying to twist ideas around in my mind to find ways to make difficult concepts easier to get. So what it came down to is the decision to make chapter 337 a "difficult to understand" chapter. Of the two opinions I mentioned above, we chose the latter. Well, we've been at this a long time, so it's not a bad idea to mix things up with a little of this kind of thing. So we're back to normal time, and where was that place that Future Lucy went to? I have an answer, but I've decided not to talk about it. Pick your own answer, and that'll be the correct one. Also chapters 338-343, six chapters, were all done in the magazine over the course of only two weeks. Now that was an undertaking, but the reaction was big and overwhelmingly positive, so I was really happy with that. If I get the chance, I'd like to do some more fun, special projects like that! By the way, in 338, there were Numbermen! (people who are numbered 1 - 8) hidden in there. Did you find them all?

Emergency Request! Explain the mysteries of F.T.



Somewhere in Magnolia...

Lucy: Hi, everybody!

Mira: When our corner was missing from the last volume, I thought it was all over for us!

Lucy: Didn't we have a conversation like this before?

Mira: Here's the first question of the column!

After seeing Makarov's and Ivan's HAIR I fear for Laxus's future.



Lucy: Awww...



: I think he should just accept it as lost.



: Hey! That's awful!

Mira: I don't see much help for it.

Lucy: But isn't this something you really can't predict?

Mira: I suppose. Come to think of it, there's me and Lisanna and Elfman. None of our hair matches the others.

Lucy: I get the feeling that your case is a little different from this, though.

Mira: Now the next question.

Is there a key that calls the king of the Celestial Spirits?



: Oh, yeah!! I want to know!!

Mira: Even if there is, we can't talk about it here.

Lucy: Huh? Why is that?



: Heh heh heh... Actually, I own it.



: Whaaa...?!!

Mira: I'm kidding, of course. What did you expect?

Lucy: Can we stop with the disjointed lies, please?

Mira: Such a thing may come up in the future, so look forward to hearing about it!



• And I'm going to get that key!! Count on it!

Mira: I'll never give it to you.

Lucy: But you *just* said that you didn't have it!

Mira: Next question!

I was really moved by that one minute that Ultear made. But wouldn't Future Rogue and the dragons have seen what happens in the minute too?



Lucy: I was running for my life at the time, so I didn't even notice it.

Mira: Okay, this wasn't explained well enough in the course of the story, but Future Rogue and the dragons had all passed through time into a different era, right?

Lucy: Yes, that's right.

Mira: And since they're people for whom time is already a bit warped, they didn't even feel the extra minute that Ultear had created.

Lucy: So it was a minute that only people who were from our particular timeline could feel.

Mira: Yes. It's only a minute... But in that minute there were a lot of lives that got saved.

Lucy: I think...she was really heroic there.

Mira: And now the last question for this column.

Was that scene where Lucy got nude really necessary?



• It certainly was *not* necessary!!



• Still, I predicted it in Volume 37, and it turned out just like I said!

Lucy: Come on!! It's because you say those stupid things that the author is then forced to draw the darned thing!

*"Those stupid things"
from Vol. 37, page 196.*

Mira: Yep! ♥ Actually, Lucy, Carla had a dream about you suddenly becoming nude in front of a huge number of people.

Mira: About that... Many of our readers may not know this, but the magazine installments (in Weekly Shonen Magazine) are published far in advance of the graphic novel volumes.

Lucy: I think I kinda knew that.

Mira: So when 37 was published, Lucy's nude scene had already appeared in the magazine. Or at least it had already been drawn.



• So it *wasn't* Carla's prediction after all!!

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

FAIRY GUILD

How cute!
And they're
both wearing
animal
ears!!
It looks
good on
them!

Aichi Prefecture, Miran



Osaka, Roruru

For a while,
these three
characters
have made
peace with
their relationships.
But what
happens
from here
on out?

Aichi Prefecture, Misaki Sugawara



▲ These two have a quiet popularity. They don't seem like executioners, huh?

Nara Prefecture, Kato Okuda



▲ This one's cute! Happy, what do you think you're doing?!

Hey! What
do you
think
you're
wear-
ing?!



Aichi Prefecture, Ayumu Yamashita

RELATION CORNER

Kanagawa Prefecture, Kōta Takahashi



▲ Doing this much with stippling is really impressive! That is cool ink work!

Niigata Prefecture, Pikapon-chan



▲ Wendy with a little bit of sexiness is a good thing. The bunnies are cute too!

By sending in letters or postcards, you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code, and any other information you include to the artist as-is. Please keep that in mind.

TAIL

d'ART

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

Chiba Prefecture, Kōki Itoikida



▲ This person did a great job representing the blacks and whites in the Hakuei-ryū (White Shadow Dragon).

Okazaki Prefecture, Ryōma



▲ That Eclipse Door is incredibly hard to draw, and he drew it... Gotta hand it to you.

Aichi Prefecture, Minoru Fukui



▲ Two of the main characters that influence an original story for the anime, Cobra and Kinana. Kind of nice, huh?

Hiroshima Prefecture, Taichi Kobayashi



▲ Whoa!! This one's cool!! It's hard to draw large eyes well!

Mie Prefecture, Yūna Yamamoto



▲ Celestial Spirits Assemble!! It must have been a lot of work drawing all of those spirits!

Osaka, Queen



▲ Is Zeref finally a part of the story again? Keep your eyes open after this!

Hokkaido, Hail-chan



▲ Ah ha ha ha! I really love this drawing! Gildarts's character really comes out in it!

Okayama Prefecture, Kagura-love



▲ Kagura is so popular!! Someday I want her to come back!

Fairy Tail

フェアリーテイル

40

WARROD



HO HA HA HA...



GU HO HO!



HIRO 真島ヒロ NASHINA



FROM HIRO MASHIMA



This has become a really long series!
But it's still going on.
With this volume, the extremely
long Grand Magic Games comes to
an end, and we're already into a new
story! I plan to introduce a lot of new
characters too. Look for them!

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 23, Festival



All the elements on this page, except Plue and the cats, are commonly found in summertime festivals (*matsuri*) in Japan.

- All the cats are wearing the light cotton kimono called *yukata* while doing a dance around a pavilion at the center of the festival grounds that commonly hold the festival's organizers and the musical entertainment.

Going clockwise from the top...

- The festival of Obon, held in mid-August, often has fireworks.

- The round fan called an *uchiwa* is used to keep oneself cool.

- Some festival edible treats are fried squid on a stick, shaved ice, takoyaki (octopus balls), cotton candy, candied apples, and corn on the cob.

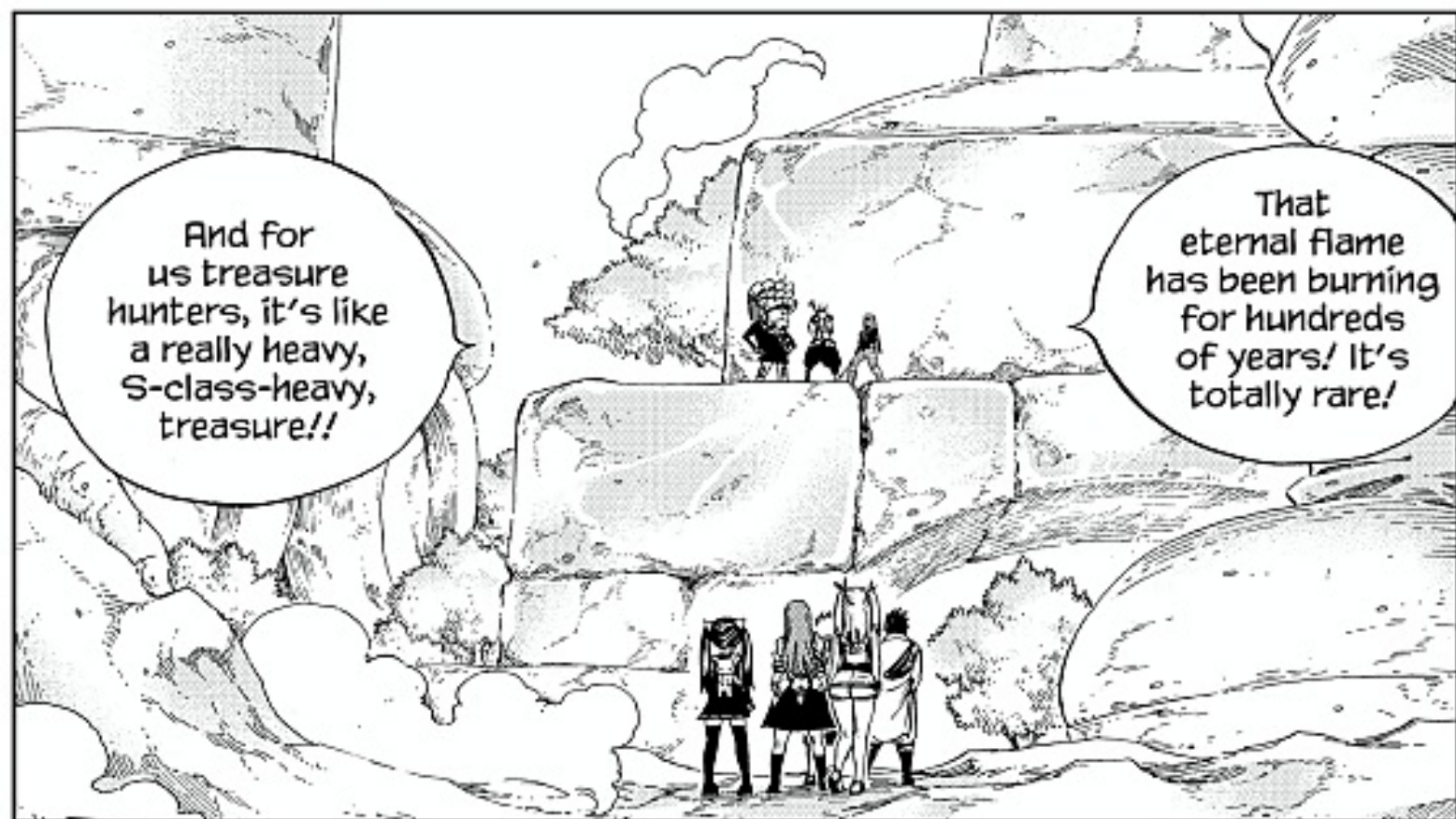
- The red painted *torii* archway is festooned with paper lanterns and a large banner with the *kanji* for *matsuri*, which means festival.

- Games at a festival include water-balloon yoyos, archery, target shooting, ring-toss, and goldfish catching.

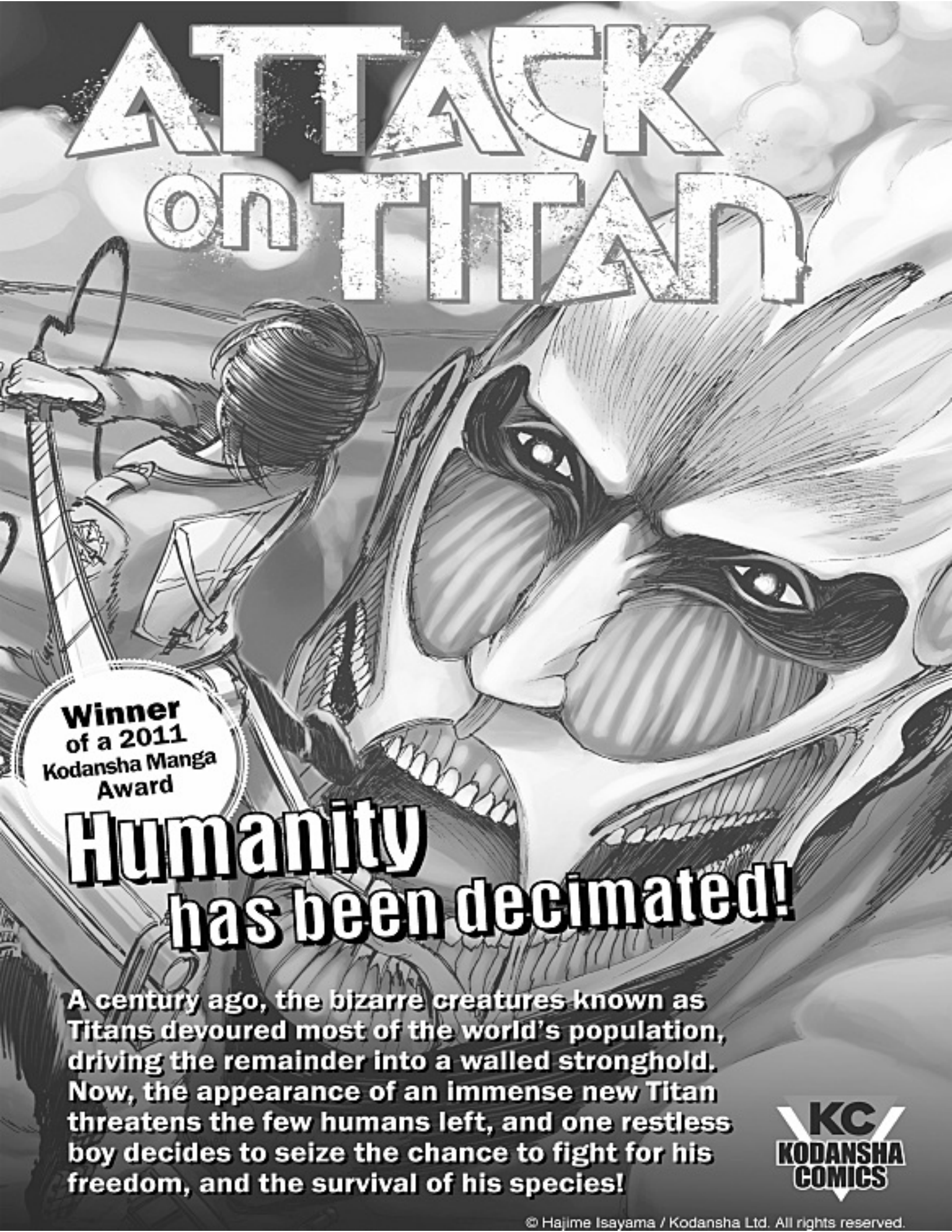
- In the upper left hand corner are common decorations found at festivals.

Page 169, Like, Heavy and Duun

Each of these three characters have certain speech patterns that identify them. To start with, the character codenamed Hammer Rala says, "Duun." He says that in Japanese too. The character codenamed Sniper Drake (the blonde) speaks like a standard but slightly dim high-school guy. The one codenamed Sword Hiroshi always uses the Japanese word *chô*, which means "very" in certain *kanji* compounds. I've replaced the word with "heavy," and used it in pretty much the same way he uses *chô*.



ATTACK on TITAN



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of a 2011
Kodansha Manga
Award

Humanity has been decimated!

A century ago, the bizarre creatures known as Titans devoured most of the world's population, driving the remainder into a walled stronghold. Now, the appearance of an immense new Titan threatens the few humans left, and one restless boy decides to seize the chance to fight for his freedom, and the survival of his species!

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

SANKAREA

undying love

**"I ONLY
LIKE
ZOMBIE
GIRLS."**



Chihiro has an unusual connection to zombie movies. He doesn't feel bad for the survivors – he wants to comfort the undead girls they slaughter! When his pet passes away, he brews a resurrection potion. He's discovered by local heiress Sanka Rea, and she serves as his first test subject!



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Translation: William Flanagan
Lettering: AndWorld Design
Editing: Ben Applegate

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